Respect
(September Parent Edition)

Definition of Respect:

A respectful person lives by the Golden Rule, accepts others who are different, lives and resolves conflicts peacefully, and shows courtesy to all. (Additional info for parents: The essence of respect is to show solemn regard for the worth of people, including yourself. Respect involves choosing to honor and show consideration for the needs and feelings of others. Being a person who demonstrates respect in all of their relationships is a fundamental part of becoming a person of character.)

Quotes:

"I must respect the opinions of others even if I disagree with them."
-Herbert Henry Lehman
"Remember no one can make you feel inferior without your consent."
-Eleanor Roosevelt
"It is more important to have self-respect than to gain respect from others."
-Madeleine DeScudery
"Character—the willingness to accept responsibility for one's own life—
is the source from which self-respect springs."
-Joan Didion

Discussion Starters:

Talk with your child about the Golden Rule and how that guideline effects how s/he lives day to day in the classroom, on the playground, at home, and in their neighborhood.

Treat others as you want to be treated

Who are some of your heroes and why do they deserve respect? Do all heroes deserve respect? Who else besides heroes do you respect? Why?

Talk with your child about ways that family members show courtesy and respect to one another.

Think of a situation that occurred recently that may not have been handled with respect. How could you "relive" that scenario with respect?

How can your respectfully disagree with someone in your family? What would that look like and sound like?

Ask your child to share about a hypothetical playground conflict and discuss possible respectful solutions.

Resources:

www.charactercounts.org and www.k12.hi.us/~mkunimit/page13.htm (character values)
Frog and Toad Are Friends
Best Friends
Arthur's Eyes and *Arthur's Nose*
My Friend Jacob
Ramona the Brave
George and Martha

CHARACTER COUNTS

Souderton Area School District, 2004