

CAFETERIA MISBEHAVIOR

WHAT TO DO

This is a Detention Learning Packet. It consists of three pages of text and a Response sheet that asks questions about what you did, why you did it, and what goals you must set to avoid the same problem in the future. Read the three pages and try to remember what you read. Then read the Response Sheet and write answers to the questions.

WHAT YOU DID AND WHY IT WAS WRONG

You are serving a detention because you misbehaved in the cafeteria. Sitting down for a meal is a tradition as old as civilization. In some cultures, meals are considered sacred. In others, meals are few and far between. Children starve all over the world because there are no meals for them. And yet here, where there is plenty of food, you have no appreciation of what a privilege it is to be able to eat when you are hungry. Misbehaving in the cafeteria is not just being silly or irritating. It is way of showing everybody that you don't appreciate that privilege. As with any group activity, eating at school requires cooperation. Did you cooperate by following the rules? Think about it!

STORIES ABOUT MISBEHAVING IN THE CAFETERIA

FARLEY AND THE FOOD FIGHTERS

Farley never grew up. When he was a baby, he liked to spit his food as far as he could. Now, he starts food fights in the cafeteria. Not big food fights, like in the movies, but little food fights, like throwing peas at the girls at the next table. Or making disgusting remarks about the food that other people are eating. Farley thinks it's fun trying to make people too sick to eat their food. It's his way of being the center of attention.

WHAT LOLA WANTS TO DO, LOLA DOES

The school cafeteria is not a restaurant, where waiters or waitresses pick up the dirty dishes and carry them away. Each person, after eating, has to clean his or her own table. Lola is lazy about cleaning up after herself. She always walks away and leaves her tray on the table, full of trash. The next students have to clear her garbage off the table before they can eat. This is not fair to the other students. Do you like to sit down at a table where the garbage has been left behind?

CARL, THE CRASHER

Carl thinks he has a right to push into the serving line ahead of other people. He does it at the movies and in the cafeteria. Sometimes, he just barges in and pushes people out of the way. Other times, he gets into conversations with people in the line, and just squeezes in ahead of the others. Carl is a big guy. If you complain, he'll dare you to do something about it. Carl is a real dork. He's interested only in himself. Eventually, he'll push ahead of the wrong person. No one likes a line crasher.

WHY PEOPLE MISBEHAVE IN THE CAFETERIA

Many people misbehave in the cafeteria simply because they think they can get away with it. Conditions are not as controlled in a cafeteria as they are in a classroom. Therefore, some students try to do what they want. Sometimes they shove their way into line. Other times, they throw food or don't clean up after themselves. At times they toss food under the table. Either way, they are obnoxious, and make lunch an unpleasant experience for everybody.

Farley likes to play the clown. He eats fast, and spends the rest of the time making everybody else miserable. For Farley, the cafeteria is an extension of the playground. For those around him, it seems like an extension of his baby crib. When his classmates look at the floor where Farley is sitting, it reminds them of the floor beneath a baby's high chair after feeding time. It's time for Farley to grow up.

People like Lola think the rules are for other people. She doesn't realize that the rules are for everybody's convenience, not just to force students to act in a

certain way. But what Lola wants to do, Lola does. The fact that doing so bothers others is of no concern to her. She's playing power games.

Carl is the cafeteria bully. He spends the lunchtime throwing his weight around. He's also playing a power game, but a more obvious one than Lola. While Lola inconveniences everybody by not doing what she should do, Carl is a nuisance because he does what he shouldn't do. Lola is irritating, but Carl is downright obnoxious.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU MISBEHAVE

Everybody suffers when someone misbehaves in the cafeteria. The tables are a mess, the lines are slow, clothes are stained by thrown food and it takes longer to eat. All this, and you have to put up with people like Farley, Lola and Carl. Instead of coming away from the meal refreshed by food and conversation with friends, students leave the cafeteria in a bad mood. And when everybody has left, it takes the staff longer to clean up because of the mess that people like Farley and Lola leave. Farley and Lola are selfish because they think only of themselves.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO IN THE FUTURE

If you repeatedly misbehave in the cafeteria, you should try to understand why. Eating a meal can be a pleasant way to pass time with your friends. It shouldn't be a time for disturbances and pranks. Getting attention should not be a goal in the cafeteria. If you look upon mealtime as playtime or a time to bully or irritate others, you should try to find out why you behave this way.

You need to have a better understanding of why you act the way you do. Try to identify the causes of your misbehavior. Then get busy and develop some goals that will make you a better person in the cafeteria. The questions in the Response sheets will help you write these goals.

STUDENT RESPONSE PACKET # 7.1

CAFETERIA MISBEHAVIOR

NAME _____

DATE _____

GRADE __ HOMEROOM _____

WHAT TO DO

Below are some questions about what you have read. These questions will help you learn why what you did was wrong and how you can avoid such problems in the future. Your teacher, a counselor, the principal, or your parents may read your answers. Your answers will not be graded.

Write your answers in the spaces below the questions. If there is not enough room, write on the backs of these sheets. Be neat, spell correctly, use good grammar, and write in complete sentences. If you don't understand what you are supposed to do, ask your detention supervisor.

When you finish, give the Learning Packet and your Response sheets to the detention supervisor and return to your desk. The supervisor will tell you when to leave.

1. You are in detention because you misbehaved in the cafeteria. What did you do?

2. Why is there a rule against what you did?

3. Why is it sometimes dangerous to misbehave in the cafeteria?
Could throwing food make someone have an accident?

4. You have read three stories about people misbehaving in the cafeteria.
Why did Farley misbehave?

5. Why did Lola misbehave?

6. Why did Larry misbehave?

7. What are the real reasons for your own misbehavior? Be honest.

8. Write two goals that will help you stop misbehaving in the cafeteria.

STUDENT RESPONSE PACKET # 7.2

CAFETERIA MISBEHAVIOR

NAME _____

DATE _____

GRADE __ HOMEROOM _____

WHAT TO DO

Below are some questions about what you have read. These questions will help you learn why what you did was wrong and how you can avoid such problems in the future. Your teacher, a counselor, the principal, or your parents may read your answers. Your answers will not be graded.

Write your answers in the spaces below the questions. If there is not enough room, write on the backs of these sheets. Be neat, spell correctly, use good grammar, and write in complete sentences. If you don't understand what you are supposed to do, ask your detention supervisor.

When you finish, give the Learning Packet and your Response sheets to the detention supervisor and return to your desk. The supervisor will tell you when to leave.

1. This is not the first time you have received a detention for misbehaving in the cafeteria. What did you do this time?

2. We thought you had decided that misbehaving in the cafeteria is not a good idea. Why did you do what you did?

3. What causes you to misbehave in the cafeteria? List what you think are the reasons for your misbehavior.

4. You have read three stories about people who misbehaved in the cafeteria. What goals would you set if you were Farley?

5. If you were Lola, what goals would you write for yourself?

6. What goals would you write for yourself if you were Larry?

7. What happened to the goals you wrote for yourself last time you received detention for misbehaving in the cafeteria?

8. Write two new goals for yourself. Keep in mind the reasons why you didn't achieve the last set of goals you wrote.