

# WEEK 20 **Respecting Property**



Dear Parent/Guardian,

## **For Your Heart**

This week, children are learning about respecting the property of others. The focus for third grade is understanding the importance of doing their own work rather than copying someone else's work—respect for the intellectual property of others. Third graders are learning:

- The full understanding of cheating and why it is important not to cheat.
- How it feels to have someone else take credit for their work.
- How to help someone else with their work without cheating.

## **For the Heart of Your Child**

Here are suggestions for you to reinforce what your child is learning about respecting others' work:

- Help your child with homework without giving the answers. Explain that when parents give the answers, that is cheating too and doesn't help anyone. Share with your child how it can be harder to help someone the right way, which gives a greater reward in the end.
- Talk to your child about what to do and say when a friend asks him or her to cheat. Standing up to friends is very difficult for children at this age. Remind your child to use the school rules and your family rules against cheating as their reason for not cheating – until he or she is ready to say “no” for his own reasons.
- If your child's class created a policy on cheating, ask your child to explain the class rules to you. Discuss why the policy is important and how proud you will be of your child's commitment to follow the policy.
- The next time you hear a news story about an athlete, politician, or professional who cheated, talk with your child about some of the more serious consequences of cheating (being penalized from the team, jail time, etc.).

From Our Hearts to Yours,



PS Don't forget to ask about APPRECIATION and RESPONSIBILITY!

**APPRECIATION**—Recognizing and acknowledging value in people, places and things

**RESPONSIBILITY**—Following through on your duties without supervision

