

ACCEPTING CONSEQUENCES

Lesson 26

SOCIAL SKILL

Accepting Consequences for Accidents

Behavioral Objective: Children will report to teacher when an item is damaged, and explain how the damage occurred. Emphasize safety in the classroom.

Directed Lesson:

1. **Establish the Need:** Discuss the importance of accepting that sometimes accidents happen that damage another's property. Even though admitting you caused the accident doesn't correct the damage, further false accusations towards you could make the situation worse.
2. **Introduction:** Ask the students the following questions and list the responses on the board. "What happens if you don't tell the teacher?" "What happens if you tell the teacher?"
3. **Identify the Skill Components:** (List on board before class)
 1. Think about how the accident occurred.
 2. Tell the teacher.
 3. Apologize.
 4. Ask permission to clean up.
4. **Model the Skill:** Teacher will model a student's explanation for knocking down a plant, such as: "Mrs. Smith when I walked by the plant, my hand swung and knocked it down. I'm sorry. I'll be careful next time. May I clean the floor?"
5. **Behavioral Rehearsal:**
 - A. **Selection:** Teacher will select eight students to read examples describing accidents, then give explanations.
 - B. **Role Play:** Each student will read an example aloud to class and compose a verbal explanation and an apology. The following examples may be written on cards or on the board:
 1. Knocking books off the shelf.
 2. Spilling water on the floor.
 3. Ripping a page in the text.
 4. Tearing a sheet off the bulletin board.
 5. Marking a wall with crayon.
 6. Spilling the pencil sharpener contents.

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7. Kicking the person in front of you.
 8. Stepping on someone's foot as you pass by.
 - C. *Completion:* After each role play, reinforce correct behavior, identify inappropriate behaviors, and reenact role play with corrections. If there are no corrections, role play is complete.
 - D. *Reinforcers:* verbal praise, smile and nod head to show approval. Keep a "Safe Classroom" chart, and give stickers after daily assessment with class.
 - E. *Discussion:* Have children discuss role plays and corrections made. Ask class why it is important to tell an adult if something has been damaged by him/her.
6. *Practice:* Distribute copies of the following "Three Cheers for Safety Cut-Out Badge" and have children fill in their names.
 7. *Independent Use:* Teacher will ask students to share accidental occurrences that happened outside of class, and how the student followed up with an explanation and resolution.
 8. *Continuation:* Teachers should remind children of the importance of reporting accidents to the teacher or other adult as related situations arise.