

An Honest Review

This is the second lesson of the Integrity unit. At this age, the concept of integrity can be difficult to understand. As such, the focus will be on learning about honesty and perseverance. This lesson will go deeper into honesty through a review of deceitful actions and a brainstorming session on how people can be more honest, even when they make poor choices.

Integrity Sub-Concept(s)

Kindness

Lesson Timeframe

45 minutes

Required Materials

- Berenstain Bears and the Truth* by Stan and Jan Berenstain
- Internet access if Youtube link is used
- Blank paper
- Basic art supplies

Standards Map

This lesson aligns with CASEL Competencies, National Health Education Standards, and Common Core State Standards. Please refer to the [Standards Map](#) for more information.



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AS A RECOMMENDED PROGRAM
FOR SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING.
See last page for details.

Lesson Objective

Students will:

- Explore ways to be honest in difficult situations.
- Use art to identify how dishonesty negatively affects you.

Teacher Connection/Self-Care

As we continue to move through our unit on integrity, let us take some time to focus our attention on the parents of our students. This week's promise reminds us to look at parents in a slightly different light. Promise #2 is, "I will remember that parents are doing the best they can and are parenting the only way they know how." As teachers, we receive children from every possible background, socioeconomic status, and level of preparedness. It is easy to place blame or judgment when a child's home life appears substandard according to our own personal measures. However, we have a duty to make a positive assumption that parents are doing the best they can. We must respect where they are coming from and use the common ground of education as a bridge to meet them halfway during this joint journey of learning we are on during this school year. Worrying about what you cannot change is unproductive. Show up, be present, and follow through on your words.

Tips for Diverse Learners

- Photocopy pictures of the book that show the lie being told (or use screenshots on your smartboard if possible) to help visual learners and students with attention deficits focus on their specific task.
- Encourage strong writers to write down a description of their picture using their own words and spelling.



Share

3-5 minutes

Review The Lie Snowball story from last week.

- What was one lie Lisa told to her mother?
- Why did Lisa decide to lie?
- Why did she continue to lie over and over again?



Inspire

15 minutes

Last week we talked about lying and how “little white lies” can add up and turn into a great big lie snowball! This week we will practice choosing honesty even when others have already decided on lying. Part of being a kind friend is helping others to be honest in all situations! Let’s review what it means to be honest.

Invite student responses.

Yes, being honest means always telling the truth, no matter what! This is not always easy, but it is the kind choice to make, even when we are scared that we might get in trouble.

How do our words show honesty?

How do our actions show honesty?

Why is it important to always be honest and tell the truth?

Invite student responses.

These are great answers! Remember, Honesty is the Best Policy! This is always true, no matter what is happening. It might feel scary, but it is always better to be honest than to lie and get in trouble twice!

Read Aloud *The Berenstain Bears and the Truth* by Stan and Jan Berenstain

Youtube Link: [📺 The Berenstain Bears and the Truth - Read Aloud](#)

To help us understand the importance of honesty, we will read a story about two bears who get themselves into trouble by creating a huge lie to cover up a poor choice they made.

After finishing the book, guide a discussion using the following questions:

- What poor choice did the little bears make in the story? (played with the ball in the house)
- What lies did they create to hide their poor choice?
- How did their parents react to all of the lies?
- Do you think their parents knew they were lying from the beginning?



Empower

10-15 minutes

Explain that each student will now create a picture to illustrate 1-2 examples of dishonesty and lies they heard in the book.

Step 1:

Have each student fold their paper in half.

Step 2:

Instruct the students to draw an example of one lie they heard within the book. If time allows, encourage them to add a second example on the other half of the paper.

Step 3:

Have each student explain what they drew and why they drew it. How does your picture illustrate dishonesty? How could the little bears have been more honest in what really happened? Write their answers down on the paper.



Reflect

3 minutes

If time allows, have several students share their pictures with the rest of the class. Hang the pictures up on the wall as a reminder of dishonesty. Use the illustrations in the future when encouraging honesty as the best policy in your classroom!



Extension Ideas

- Write the word honesty on the board with each letter going down. As a class, brainstorm situations in which you could be honest.



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LEARNING.

The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has been reviewing evidence-based SEL programs since 2003. Kindness in the Classroom® meets CASEL's SElect Program and is included in the [CASEL Guide to Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs](#).

Kindness in the Classroom® met or exceeded all of CASEL's criteria for high-quality SEL programming. Kindness in the Classroom® received CASEL's highest designation for high-quality SEL programming.

<https://casel.org/guide/kindness-in-the-classroom/>