Choosing Respect

Lesson Timeframe
25-30 mins

Materials
- Paper with a scenario written on it (see empower section for a list of the scenarios). Write each one on a separate piece of paper.
- Respect poster (optional)

Share
Discuss the importance of using respect throughout your day! Define respect: RESPECT IS TREATING PEOPLE, PLACES, AND THINGS WITH KINDNESS. (Show the Respect poster if desired.) As a group, discuss different ways you were able to use respect throughout the day. How did you act during breakfast? On the bus? In class? On the playground? Ask volunteers to share one way to demonstrate respect in school that day. Aim for 2-3 volunteers, with at least one from grades 4-6.

Inspire
We have many opportunities to be respectful throughout each day; all we have to do is pay attention and focus on kindness and respect will naturally follow! Discuss different ways to be respectful: kind words and actions, taking turns, helping others, listening to adults, etc.

The group will be divided into smaller mixed age groups of 3-4 students per group. Every group will work together to create a role play to demonstrate respect within their assigned scenario.

Empower
Divide the group into mixed age groups of 3-4 students. Make sure there is at least one strong reader in each group. Provide each group with one of the following scenarios (give 2 groups the same scenario if you run out of options):

- Eating dinner
- Playing at recess
- Practicing a sport
- Talking with your parents
- Asking for help at school

Each team will work together to practice a role play that demonstrates respect within their assigned topic. Allow 5-10 minutes for everyone to practice their role play. Bring the whole group back together and have each team present their role play. Encourage the rest of the group to guess the scene.

Reflect
Guide a whole group conversation around RESPECT.

- What respectful actions did you observe during our role plays?
- Which situation is hardest for you to show respect in?
- Why is it important to show respect when asking for help?
- What might happen if we are unkind and don’t show respect for others in our out of school time program?