Responsibility Shout Out

Lesson Timeframe
15-20 mins

Materials
- A ball (any type will work)
- Responsibility poster (optional)

Share
Define responsibility: RESPONSIBILITY IS BEING RELIABLE TO DO THE THINGS THAT ARE EXPECTED OR REQUIRED OF YOU. (Share the responsibility poster if desired.) This means people can count on you! You say what you do and do what you say. Let’s practice responsibility by working together to finish these sentences:

When I mess it up, I ________ (clean it up).
When I open it, I ________ (close it).
When I break something, I ___________ (fix it, tell a grown up).
When I find something that doesn’t belong to me, I ____________ (turn it in).

As a group, brainstorm additional ways to show responsibility throughout your day. Aim for 2-3 volunteers of varying ages.

Inspire
Each of us have personal responsibilities; these are things that we must do to take care of ourselves, our possessions, and our space. When we are responsible for ourselves and our actions, it helps others as well. People can count on us to do our part and they can focus on their own responsibilities without worrying about ours! Everyone has something he or she is responsible for. We all depend on ourselves and on others to do the right thing, to do what is asked and expected, and to do what is helpful. That is what keeps our program running smoothly! The most important thing you are responsible for, is you!

Empower
The whole group will now play a game to highlight what we are personally responsible for at home. Form two lines with a gap of about 2-3 feet between each line. Try to have varying ages facing each other so you don’t wind up with too many younger children facing each other. Have one leader announce the following sentence prompt: “At home I am responsible for…” Beginning with the first person on the right side, each person will hold the ball in their hands, answer the sentence prompt and then toss it to the person across from them. This person will then shout out their answer and toss the ball to the next person on the other line (diagonal toss). Continue shouting out answers and tossing the ball to the next person on the other side until you have reached the end of the line.

Reflect
Guide a discussion around RESPONSIBILITY at home.
- We just listed many things we are responsible for at home! What would happen if you didn’t take care of these things?
- How does it feel when someone in your home ignores their responsibilities?
- How can you use kind words and actions to help others follow through with their responsibilities?

© The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation. All Rights Reserved. www.randomactsofkindness.org