

## **Directions for Importing Newsletter Clippings**

### **LIVING AND WORKING WITH OTHERS Parent Toolkit for Grades K-1 and Grades 2-4**

**18 newsletter clips are included in this document:**

- **K-1 clippings appear on pages 2 – 5**
- **Grades 2-4 clippings appear on pages 6 – 8.**
- **Combined K-4 clippings appear on pages 9-10**

**Each clipping has two parts: a PNG graphic for use in MS Office programs AND a text box containing the content.**

**Copy and paste each part separately from this document into your newsletter document. The layout for the PNG picture should be “behind text” and the layout for the text box should be “in front of text”. Both can be resized as needed.**

## CLIP 1 K-1



### FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

*Children learn about themselves and others in everything they do. Parents and teachers can help them understand the value and importance of living and working with others.*

"During share time, I noticed that you were talking when it was Jason's turn. How do you think Jason felt that you weren't listening?" It's often hard for a kindergartener to sit quietly and give their full attention to a friend. They're just itching to tell their own story and they'd like to do it *now*. But learning to listen attentively and show respect for others is an important skill to master. With some gentle prodding and discussion, children begin to learn at an early age how to be a valuable member of society.

Home and school are the natural environments for our children to learn about themselves and each other. What are our goals? Parents and teachers can work together to help children consistently:

- Learn to work and play cooperatively.
- Show respect and concern for others.
- Understand the impact of his/her behavior on others.
- Understand and respect individual differences.

## Mini Clips for Clip 1 K-4



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### FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

*"During share time, I noticed that you were talking when it was Jason's turn. How do you think Jason felt that you weren't listening?"*

It's often hard for a kindergartener to sit quietly and give their full attention to a friend. They're just itching to tell their own story and they'd like to do it *now*. But learning to listen attentively and show respect for others is an important skill to master. With some gentle prodding and discussion, children begin to learn at an early age how to be a valuable member of society.

## CLIP 2 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

### **Help your child learn to cooperate and take turns.**

Children five to seven learn this by playing board games with adults and older children. Through games they learn about taking turns, following the rules, and having fun with others. Be sure to celebrate the fun you had playing the game together and de-emphasize winners and losers. You can even talk about how much better the child is getting at cooperating and playing the game. Consider having a Friday night family game night every week.

## CLIP 3 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

### **Encourage your child to respect other people and show concern appropriately.**

They can make cards to send to sick friends or relatives, make cookies for the old lady who lives up the street, or donate toys to a foundation. Praise them for their kind deeds and they will multiply.

## CLIP 4 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

**Help your child learn to listen and identify the needs of others. This begins by listening effectively yourself.**

The book, *How to Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Your Kids Will Talk* by Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish, can help you learn how to structure your conversations with your child. You can help your child by asking gentle questions, such as, "How do you think \_\_\_ feels about that?" Guide your child to recognize that there may be competing needs and help him/her to find compromises. If your child is in a disagreement with another child, sit both down and have each child describe what happened from his/her point of view. Ask the children to tell you what the other child said. Then help them come up with a resolution to their conflict.

## CLIP 5 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

**Have clear rules about appropriate behavior in your family. Children need to understand what's appropriate and what's not appropriate.**

Rules such as, "We respect each other in our family," can apply to hitting or teasing or making loud noises when you are on the telephone. It's important that you follow through with inappropriate behavior with consequences such as "time out." A reasonable time out is one minute of time for each year of age. Once the time out is over, discuss the inappropriate behavior in a calm voice with the child and reinforce their acceptance of the family rule.

## CLIP 6 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

**Help your child recognize individual differences and learn to be considerate of the wishes and the rights of others.**

Getting along with others involves a lot of “give and take.” Compliment them when they show consideration for another person’s need or desire. Help them learn how to greet people appropriately and practice how to behave in public settings so they do not disturb other people.

## CLIP 7 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

**Integrate lessons about how to live and work with others into everyday life.**

Take your children to a different neighborhood or town...how is it different from where you live? How is it the same? Go to an ethnic festival and taste new ethnic foods. Use books or videos to expose them to different types of people, cultures, and religions.

## Clip 1 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

**Children will learn to show respect and concern for others.**

*At home,*

- Model respectful behavior – encourage children to ask how others are feeling.
- Talking at the dinner table provides an excellent opportunity to interact with the rest of the family in a respectful and caring manner.
- Praise good behavior and showing respect.
- Encourage children to feel comfortable and open up to you during bedtime or other quiet time.

## Clip 2 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

**Children will understand how their behavior impacts others and learn to respond to the needs of others.**

*At home,*

- Ask your child to articulate what they did. How did it make them feel? How did it make the other person feel?
- Become involved with charity work, donations, good will projects, participate in walks or drives.
- Help siblings (reach something too high) and work together (pick up toys).
- Practice listening to others.

## Clip 3 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

**Children will understand and respect individual differences and respect differences of opinion.**

*At home,*

- Encourage children to play with others with different ethnicity, religion, interests or strengths.
- Try different foods and go to different restaurants.
- Moms and Dads have different opinions – discuss and compromise so everyone can benefit.
- Presidential debates – talk about how they both have different opinions, but both are good people.

## Clip 4 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

**Children learn to work cooperatively with others.**

*At home,*

- Play games inside and outside. Practice taking turns, accepting not winning gracefully and not gloating when the game is won. The purpose is the fun together.
- Give tasks that require more than one person to complete (plant a garden).
- Clean the house (everybody – Dad too!)

## Clip 5 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

**Children learn to deal with consequences and understand why we need rules.**

*At home,*

- Talk with children about why their behavior was unacceptable and ask them to articulate what they did wrong.
- Talk about community laws and why they are important.
- Post “to do” charts at home so expectations are clear. Follow through when expectations are not met.

## Clip 6 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

**Children will demonstrate sensitivity and kindness.**

*At home,*

- Send cards of thanks, celebration, and sympathy.
- Visit friends in hospital or in general.
- Bake for new neighbors.
- Visit elderly relatives or neighbors.
- Write letters to relatives or friends.



## CLIP 1 K-4, Part 1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-4



### Bullying Part One

Board of Education Policy 8-605 prohibits bullying in schools. Bullying among children is aggressive behavior that is intentional and is repeated over time. Bullying in kindergarten and first grade usually involves hitting or name calling or not allowing a child to play with the group. Bullying may cause children to feel lonely, anxious, or sick. Sometimes children do not tell the school or their parents they are being bullied. Part Two in this series will address what to do if your child tells you he/she is being bullied and Part Three addresses children who are bullies.

## CLIP 1 K-4, Part 2



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-4



### Bullying Part Two

#### If your child tells you he/she is being bullied...

- Be supportive and gather information about the bullying. Never tell your child to ignore the bullying. Find out who was involved, what happened, and where it occurred. Do not encourage physical retaliation as a solution.
- Contact your child's teacher and/or principal. Keep your emotions in check. A parent's protective instincts stir strong emotions. Give the school person the basic information you have gathered. Expect the person from school to get back to you. If the bullying doesn't stop, contact school authorities again.
- Help your child become more resilient to bullying. Teach him/her how to seek help from an adult when he/she feels threatened. Help your child to develop a sense of self-worth by developing talents or positive attributes. Encourage your child to make contact with friendly students in his class. Ask yourself, "Is my child being bullied because of a lack of social skills?" If your child easily irritates people, help him/her learn the social rules of his/her peer group.

## CLIP 1 K-4, Part 3



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-4



### Bullying Part Three

#### What if your child is the bully?

Children who bully their peers tend to be impulsive, be easily frustrated, lack empathy, have difficulty following rules, and view violence in a positive way.

- Make it clear to your child that you take bullying seriously and that you will not tolerate this behavior. Develop clear and consistent rules – then praise and reinforce your child for following rules. Do not use physical punishment for discipline. Instead, remove privileges or add jobs around the house.
- Provide as much parental or adult supervision as possible. Put an immediate stop to any bullying you observe. Then have the child act in a more appropriate way. The talk with your child about how to act in an appropriate way.
- Emphasize praise and positive feedback. Reward the child for caring and appropriate behaviors.