

Lesson: Lifelong Guideline Lesson – Trustworthiness

Subject Area: Back to School

Common Core Standards Covered:

Supplies Needed:

- The Empty Pot by Demi
- Chart paper
- Markers
- Large piece of butcher paper shaped like a flower pot (will use this as your anchor chart)
- Construction paper in various colors, scissors and glue
- Friendly Letter template (presented with this lesson plan)

Procedure:

- Think, Pair Share - Have students meet you in your gathering area and ask them to think for one minute about some people they know they can trust. Next have them pair with someone next to them and share who came into their minds.
- Next ask for a few volunteers to share one person that they thought of and ask them if they can put into words exactly WHY they say they can trust that person.
- Read the story. At the end talk about how Ping shows that he is trustworthy. (Explain the meaning of this word using its parts – worthy of being trusted....showing that one can be trusted.) Discuss how much Ping stood to lose by telling the truth, but that he chose to do it anyway. What was the outcome?
- Add the title “Trustworthy people...” at the top of your butcher paper flower pot and with the class, brainstorm some of the characteristics

of Ping. Also have the students think about the person they had in their minds earlier as someone to trust as they share other characteristics of trustworthy people. Record their answers on the butcher paper flower pot.

- Some possible answers: Trustworthy people...
 - Tell only the truth
 - Tell all of the truth
 - Keep promises
 - Say what they mean
 - Return things that don't belong to them
 - Don't lie, cheat or steal
 - Don't tell secrets
 - Don't say things that will hurt others
 - Do good things even when others encourage them to be bad
 - Don't ask you to do anything bad
 - Are loyal to their friends and family
 - Do the right thing even if it means they might not get what they want
 - Do the right thing even if it means they might get into trouble
- Next compare all of those good characteristics to seeds in a pot. Help them to understand the connection that when someone does these things or acts in these ways, trust will begin to grow.
- Tell your students that your expectation in the classroom is that over time, if everyone displays the things you've added to the flower pot, then everyone will be trustworthy, which is an important part of a

classroom community. (You may also want to talk a little bit about how it isn't always easy when you're a kid!)

- Give all of your students various colors of construction paper, scissors and glue. Have each of them create one big colorful flower to glue onto the top of the pot to illustrate how trust will grow.
- Display your pot full of flowers in your classroom to refer to often and to remind students of your expectations.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY:

- Use the friendly letter template provided, and have your students fill in the blanks to write a letter to someone that they trust. Have them color the flower when they're finished. Seal these letters in envelopes for the students to take home to present to whomever they wrote the letter.

Notes: _____

