



BE RESPONSIBLE

FAMILY CONNECTION LESSON

CONCEPTS TO REINFORCE:

- Do what you say you will do
- Take good care of your belongings as well as others'
- Clean up after yourself
- Always tell someone where you are going
- Admit your mistakes
- When you make a mistake, say you are sorry and try to fix the problem

MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Pen or pencil (optional)
- Scissors or paper cutter

ACTIVITY:

Instructions: Type or handwrite several different situations on paper. Cut the paper so that each situation is on its own piece and give at least one slip of paper to each family member. Have each family member read their situation aloud and say whether they think it is a responsible action or an irresponsible action. Discuss different ways each member of the family can act more responsibly and why it is important to be responsible. **See sample situations below.**

Sample Situations:

- You tell Mom as you're getting ready for school that you're supposed to wear a white T-shirt to school but you don't have a clean one.
- You drop the school newsletter in the hall at school but you're in a hurry to beat your little brother to the front seat of the car so you don't pick up the paper.
- You came home from soccer and put your dirty soccer clothes in the laundry so they can be washed for your next game.
- You remember it's library day and bring your library book back to school.
- You want to watch a special show on TV later tonight so as soon as you get home, you get your homework done.
- You have a spelling test tomorrow at school but you decide you'll look at the words right before your test instead of studying them tonight.

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| <p>ACTIVITY (CONT.):</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You sit down to play a game and take your socks off. When it's time for dinner, you notice your socks on the floor but decide to leave them there because you're sure your mom will pick them up. • You always feed your dog without your dad or mom having to remind you it needs to be done. • When you and your sister finish playing a game, you put all the pieces neatly back in the game box. • You start filling the sink so you can work on a craft project and leave for a minute to get the supplies you need. You don't get back soon enough and water gets all over the floor. You get some rags and clean up the water. • You told your little brother you'd play a game with him after dinner but now you want to ride your bike instead. |
| <p>ACTIVITY TALKING POINTS:</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do you think this is a responsible/irresponsible thing to do? • What does "responsible" mean to you? • Why is it good to be responsible? • What are some choices you make every day? • In what ways can you be more responsible? |
| <p>FAMILY DISCUSSION:</p> | <p>As you can see, we are faced with choices every single day. We can choose to be responsible or not. When we are responsible, others will respect you and you will make more friends because they will trust that you will do what you say you will do.</p> |
| <p>CONCLUSION:</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set goals with your child(ren) on how they can be more responsible. |
| <p>TREAT:</p> | <p>CHARLESTON CHEWS or HI-CHEW CANDY Chews wisely to be responsible!</p> |
| <p>ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>My Troll Patrol: Be Responsible</i> by Jenifer Ramsey-Palomarez • <i>A Regular Flood of Mishap</i> by Tom Birdseye • <i>Have You Filled a Bucket Today? A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids</i> by Carol McCloud • <i>Strega Nona</i> by Tomie dePaola • <i>The Paper Bag Princess</i> by Robert Munsch |

"Being responsible means you are reliable and your friends and family can trust you to do what you say. A responsible person takes care of his belongings, as well as others'."

