

Property: Ownership, Respect, and Responsibility

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AUDIENCE: Grades K-2

OBJECTIVES:

- To understand that people's property needs to be respected and the use of property involves responsibility.
- To understand that laws and rules protect personal property (individual property) and public property (property which is not owned individually).

MATERIALS:

- Storybook Those Terrible Toy-Breakers by David McPhail (Parents Magazine Press) or any other children's literature which correlates with damage done to property.
- A class set of teacher-made tagboard, thermometers or similar ranking scale
- Teacher questionnaire, (attached)

INTRODUCTION: Introduce topic of property by reading aloud the book, Those Terrible Toy-Breakers. Discuss story. Have children identify the personal property damaged in the story. Were there consequences as a result of damaged property? What could have happened to those characters that damaged the property?

BRAINSTORM: Have students brainstorm the names of objects in the classroom or on school grounds that belong to themselves, classmates, teacher, and school (everybody).

DISCUSSION: Discuss the following questions: Does damage done to property "by accident" or "on purpose" make a difference? Does it make a difference on who damages the property? Personal property damaged by owner? Personal property damaged by another individual? Public (school or community) property damaged by individual(s)?

QUESTIONNAIRE: With each child or pair of children having access to a teacher-made, tagboard thermometer, students will listen to accident read by the teacher and rank the severity of the situation by measuring it on their sliding thermometer. 0 degrees, with no red showing indicates not very severe (not very bad) and 100 degrees (all-red showing) indicates very severe (very bad). Varying degrees of severity in between are shown by the sliding red indicator at other levels.

CLOSURE: Students will summarize main ideas of ownership of property and respect and responsibility towards property by answering key questions asked by the teacher.

EVALUATION: Students' understanding will be evaluated throughout the lesson by teacher's observations during the brainstorming and question and answer (discussion) period. Observation of the ranking students give will also indicate students' feelings and understanding.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONSTRUCTING THERMOMETERS

These hand-made thermometers are great teaching tools for any value or scale ranking activity as well as a

mathematics tool.

MATERIALS:

Poster board
Red permanent marker
Black permanent marker
Bias tape or seam binding tape
Glue

PROCEDURE:

1. Cut poster board into 4" x 18" size.
2. Cut bias tape or seam binding tape into 33" length.
3. Darken 16" of bias or seam binding tape with red permanent marker.
4. Make 2 holes with hole punch approximately 1" from each end of poster board.
5. Thread bias or seam binding tape through holes making sure it lies flat.
6. Glue ends of bias or binding tape together.
7. With black marker, write multiples of 10 to 100 (beginning with zero) alongside tape on poster board to indicate degrees.
8. Slide red section of tape to level or degree you wish to indicate. (At 0 degrees, all red tape will be on backside of thermometer; at 50 degrees half of the red tape will be showing; at 100 degrees all of the red tape will be showing on the front side with none on the back.)

QUESTIONNAIRE ON PROPERTY

Consider the following situations. Rank each incident according to severity. Any consistent ranking scale may be used. For example numbering each incident using a number 1-10 may be used or multiples of ten could be used. 0 indicates not at all severe while 10 (or 100 as the multiple of 10) indicates most severe.

1. Scribbling on the school hallways with crayon.
2. Smashing several jack-o-lanterns on a neighborhood street.
3. Writing your name on a paperback book that belongs to you.
4. Cutting your classmate's hair with school scissors.
5. While turning a page of a library book that you checked out, you rip it.
6. Throwing rocks through the windows of parked cars.
7. Pouring milk onto your neighbor's lunch tray while he/she is eating.

8. Trampling your neighbor's flower garden on a short-cut home.
9. Writing swear words with permanent marker on the bathroom walls in school.
10. Slashing school bus seats with a sharp object.
11. Breaking a teammate's bat after hitting a ball that was pitched to you during a recess softball game.
12. Carving one's initials with a jack-knife on a picnic table in a city park.
13. Climbing through an open library window after school hours and throwing all the books off the shelves as well as destroying some.
14. Breaking a friend's pencil lead on the pencil that he/she lent you.
15. Cutting a picture out of the school's encyclopedia for your book report.