

# Manners

## “Please” and “Thank You”

### Suggested Group Size

Whole Group (Book Reading); Small Group (Practicing with Manners)

### Objective

The children will talk with their peers and use their manner words.

### Activity

Children will demonstrate how to use manner words (e.g., “Please” and Thank You”) in everyday conversations.

### Targeted Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards for Four-Year-Olds

- **IV. Language, Communication, and Emergent Literacy**
  - **E. Conversation**
    - **E.1.** Uses language to express needs and feelings, share experiences, predict out-comes, and resolve problems.
      - **E.1.a.** Child demonstrates varied uses of language (e.g., requesting, commenting, using manner words, problem solving).

### Materials

- Book: *Emily's Magic Words: Please, Thank You, and More* by Cindy Post Senning
- Optional Books:
  - *Perfect Pigs: an Introduction to Manners* by Marc Brown
  - *Elmo's Good Manners Game* by Catherine Samuel
  - *The Culprit Was a Fly* by Lisa Funari-Willever

### Procedures

#### Before You Begin the Lesson

1. Use the *Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards for Four-Year-Olds* to review the Targeted and Related Standards for Four-Year-Olds included in this lesson.
2. Read *Emily's Magic Words: Please, Thank You, and More* by Cindy Post Senning, to become familiar with the story.
3. Be sure you have thought of how the children can use the manner words “please” and “thank you” in conversations with their peers (e.g., “Please pass me the blue block. Thank you for helping me to build a sandcastle.”).

## **Procedures (continued)**

### **Book Reading (Whole Group)**

1. Ask the children, "How many of you know what manners are?" Allow children to respond and accept all answers.
2. Read *Emily's Magic Words: Please, Thank You, and More* by Cindy Post Senning to the children.
3. Ask questions throughout the book to check for understanding (e.g., "What magic words did Emily use in the story?").

### **Practicing with Manners (Small Group)**

1. Ask the children, "What are some of the manner words that Emily used in the story?" Prompt the children as needed to help them recall the words.
2. Divide the children into groups of two or three and allow them to practice using the manner words "please" and "thank you" and any other words they remember from the book.
3. Observe the groups to be sure they are using the words in the proper context.
4. Encourage the children to always use their manner words.
5. Look for "teachable moments" throughout the day when you can model how to appropriately use manner words and give positive feedback when a child uses manner words appropriately. This will encourage the other children to use their manner words as well.

## **Adaptations**

- Introduce additional manner words (e.g., "Excuse me" or "I'm sorry") to the children who have mastered "please" and "thank you."
- Provide one-on-one teacher support for children who may be having difficulty using manner words appropriately.

## **Extensions**

- Model how to use manner words appropriately in your daily conversations with children and adults.
- Ask parents to help their child make a "good manners chart" that lists the manners/behaviors their child is going to try and follow at home.
- Add related materials to classroom centers:
  - **Literacy:** Include a variety of hand puppets and books about manners.
  - **Dramatic Play:** Encourage the children to use manner words as they play with their friends.

## **Checking for Understanding**

Children will demonstrate their understanding of the lesson by:

- using manner words in everyday conversation with their friends and teachers.

## **Related Standards for Four-Year-Olds**

- **II. Approaches to Learning**
  - **A. Eagerness and Curiosity**
    - **A.1.** Shows curiosity and is eager to learn new things and have new experiences