

Personal/Social Development



Standard: Self- Management and Responsible Behavior

Competency: 5.2 Demonstrate appropriate attitudes and behaviors.

Lesson Topic: Attitudes

Grade Level: 4-5

Length: 1 class period

Materials:

What's Up With Your Attitude? and Check Out Your Attitude worksheets.

Evaluation:

Students will identify ways to show positive and negative attitudes and the impact they have on everyday life situations.

Procedure:

1. The teacher leads a discussion about what attitude is, the ways we show attitudes, and how attitude affects what we do.
2. As a class, read Scenario One and Scenario Two on the worksheet, *What's Up With Your Attitude?*
3. Have each student fill out the *Check Out Your Attitude* worksheet.
4. Review and discuss the consequences of the items that show a negative attitude.
5. Have each student write down three things that he/she could do to improve his/her attitude.

WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR ATTITUDE?



Do you need to just keep a few things in check, or check them at the door?



Which of the two scenarios below best describe your attitude about school?

SCENARIO ONE

On Monday morning your alarm clock goes off. You hit the snooze twice before finally shutting it off. A half an hour later your Mom is shaking you and telling you that you're late for school. Ten minutes later you crawl out of bed. You throw on yesterday's jeans and tee shirt and head off to school.

You're hungry and would like some breakfast, but there's no time. You get to school late. On your way to your first class you realize that you forgot to bring the science experiment that you worked on with Braden and Sam most of the weekend. It was due today, and if it's late you and your friends will have to accept a lower grade than you deserve. While they were working on the project, you were busy chatting with friends online. Once you're in the classroom your teacher starts hassling you about showing up late for class. He even has the nerve to tell you that you look like you just crawled out of bed. You take your seat and glare at him the rest of the class period. You'll show him...You're not going to take any notes...even though you know you will be quizzed on his lecture tomorrow. Whatever! You couldn't take notes even if you wanted to, because you left your notebook in your locker anyway.

SCENARIO TWO

On Monday morning your alarm goes off. You hit the snooze once...you can hardly believe that it's time to get up already. In about five minutes your alarm goes off again. You're still not ready to get up. But, you know if you don't your older sister will beat you to the bathroom and you'll run the chance of being late for school. So, you crawl out of bed and head for the shower. After a good hot shower, you feel more awake and ready to start the day. Back in your bedroom you scan your closet looking at what there is to wear. You finally decide on your newest jeans and a tee shirt that was just washed yesterday.

In the kitchen, you sit down to a bowl of cereal and an apple. When you're finished, you grab your book bag and head out the door. Three blocks from home you remember you forgot the science project Braden, Sam, and you worked on most of the weekend. You know you'll be late if you turn back now. But, then you remember all the work you three did this weekend and the fact that you could get demoted a grade if the project's late. Besides, you sure wouldn't want to let Braden and Sam down. So, you go back to get it.

When you arrive at school you're a few minutes late. You go to the school office and get a pass. When you walk into class you apologize for being late and put your group's science project on the table. Then you quietly take your seat and begin taking notes so you can review them for the quiz tomorrow.

Which scenario best describes the way you might approach the same situation?





ATTITUDE DOES MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE!

Believe it or not, much of the way you conduct yourself in school will probably follow you into the world of work. A bad or negative attitude might be funny now. Some people will even think you're cool. But you might have to pay for it with bad grades and time in detention. Maybe right now you think it's worth it, but you haven't even started paying for it yet! If you continue with your negative attitude, you'll find that it will be hard to get and keep jobs. At the very least, you'll find that your opportunities for raises might pass you by and that few people will want you to be on their working team.

CHECK OUT YOUR ATTITUDE!

Put a checkmark in the boxes by those attitudes that you think are positive. Put an X in those boxes you feel are not positive.

- Willing to help others.
- Wearing dirty and rumpled clothing.
- Being a responsible team member by doing your share of work on time.
- Dressing neatly and being well groomed.
- Showing up late and making a scene
- Coming to a class or meeting unprepared.
- Blaming others for your mistakes.
- Taking responsibility for your actions.
- Showing up for school on time. When you have to be late, making sure it's a good reason and admitting that you are late. Also, not expecting special treatment because of it.
- Showing respect for your teachers.