

Truthfulness

True/False Game

Objective: To practice recognizing and giving truthful answers.

Make laminated cards with the words **True** and cards with the word **False**. Give each child a set for them to use during the game. When they have the answer, invite them to hold up the card they think is the right answer. Ask the children:

- The sky is green - True or False?
- I am wearing orange - True or False?
- We are having a virtues class - True or False?
- A car has wheels - True or False?
- People can fly through the air - True or False?

Silly Sentences

Objective: To practice identifying truth from non-truthful statements in a fun way.

Say a group of sentences, most of which make perfectly good sense. Insert one sentence that does not, and see who is listening and can spot the incorrect phrase.

Examples:

I eat with my mouth. I feel with my hands. I jump with my feet. I hop with my tongue. I touch with my hands. I run with my legs.

I get up in the morning; go to the bathroom; brush my teeth; put on my pajamas; eat breakfast; and go to school.

I take the bread out of the sink; put it in the toaster; butter it; and eat it up.

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Who Does This Belong To?

Objective: To practice and understand why we tell the truth by identifying who the objects belong to.

Place a number of objects in a basket.

Invite children to choose 1-3 objects.

Teacher closes eyes until all children have their choice of objects in their hands.

Children place the objects back in the basket. Pick an object from the basket and ask "Whose objects are these?"

Ask: "When something belongs to someone else do we ever take it?"
Conclude by reviewing the importance of truthfulness.

The Telephone Game

Objective: To help children understand that rumours are often untruthful information, and we should not pass on what others say.

Invite the children to stand in a line.

Whisper something like "Truthfulness is the foundation of all human virtues" in the ear of the first child in line.

Then invite the child to whisper what they heard in the ear of the child closest to him/her.

Let the children pass along the message down to the last child in the line.

Invite the last person to say aloud what they heard.

Compare his or her version with your phrase.

Repeat the game several times with different messages.

Explain to the children that when we get messages in this way they are usually mistaken.

For this reason, we should not pass on what others say because it may not be the truth we are passing on. Instead, we should look for the truth ourselves.

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Touch Telephone
(for 5-year-olds and up)

Objective: To practice relaying accurate information.

Several children stand in a line all looking in the same direction, with the last child looking at a piece of paper hanging on a wall, or tree, or, if available, on a blackboard.

More than one line can be organized, if necessary.

With a finger, the teacher draws something on the first child's back.

He, in turn, draws it on the back of the second child.

The second child draws it on the back of the third child and so on, until the last child is reached who draws it on the piece of paper or blackboard.

Then the teacher draws next to it what she had written on the first child's back.

The drawing should be simple so that all the children can do it.

Who is Knocking at My Door?

Objective: To help children experience the uncertainty of a situation when one has not independently looked for the truth.

Blindfold a child and have him sit on a chair with his back to everyone else. Point to another child; he will approach the chair and will knock as if at a door.

The blindfolded child will ask, "Who is knocking at my door?"

The child should try to disguise his voice and say, "It is me!"

Now have the blindfold child guess who is knocking.

He has three guesses then he opens his blindfold to find the truth for himself.

Then it is another child's turn to be blindfolded.

When a child opens his blindfold, say with delight: "Now you can find the truth for yourself!"