

# RESPECT

## Syllables

re•spect

## Pronunciation

ri-spekt

## Definition

To hold someone or something in esteem.

(Malka showed **respect** by honoring the differences between people.)

**Simply put:** Everyone counts.

## Related Terms

Esteem: Have a high opinion of something.

## Fundamental Question:

**Do I show respect for myself by showing respect for others?**

Students will investigate the idea that respectful behavior means accepting personal differences and treating others courteously.

## Objectives

Each student will:

1. Identify synonyms and antonyms of respect;
2. Role play situations that illustrate respect or disrespect; and
3. Use visual images to interpret respect.

## Before you begin

- Prepare “secret statement” slips as described in the fourth step of the procedure;
- Gather many and varied items to be used as props;
- Gather “cutable” magazines and newspapers as well as scissors and glue; and
- Print out a copy of *Picture It* for each student.

## Suggested Sidebars:

### Speaking of Respect (Discussion Idea)

**Discuss:** What does the *Golden Rule* (treating others the way you would like to be treated) have to do with respect?

### Taking It to the Next Level

Teachers, contact the Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith, 823 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY, 10017 for activities about celebrating individual differences! The ADL’s Curriculum Connection is available at [http://www.adl.org/education/curriculum\\_connections/](http://www.adl.org/education/curriculum_connections/). Also, a great list of children’s books that illustrate respect may be found at [http://www.charactercounts.org/booklist\\_search.php](http://www.charactercounts.org/booklist_search.php).

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## Procedure

1. Ask: “We have been discussing respect. Who can give me a quick definition?” (Allow for one or more correct responses.)
2. Ask: “What is a synonym?” (A word that means the same thing as another word.) “What is an antonym?” (A word that means the opposite of another word.)
3. Say: “Today we are going to identify words that are more or less synonyms and antonyms of the word respect. I will write a word or term on the board. After each one, show me with a ‘thumbs up’ if the word is a synonym or a ‘thumbs down’ if the word is an antonym of the word respect. You may use your dictionaries.” Select as few or as many terms from the following list as are appropriate for your class.

### Word List Suggestions:

admire (thumbs up)

high opinion (thumbs up)

scorn (thumbs down)

honor (thumbs up)

revere (thumbs up)

ridicule (thumbs down)

disrespect (thumbs down)

esteem (thumbs up)

disregard (thumbs down)

appreciation (thumbs up)

4. Divide the class into pairs. Say: “Please sit with your partner. When I call you, come to the front of the room. I will give you a slip of paper with a secret statement on it. The statement has something to do with respect or lack of respect. You will have only 60 seconds to think and plan with your partner and 30 seconds to act out the situation. Then, the class will try to guess what the situation was. You may use words in your skit, but be sure not to use the words from your secret statement. You may use the props if you would like.”

### Secret Statement List Suggestions

- Being polite shows respect.
- Allowing others to have privacy shows respect.
- It is disrespectful to insult or embarrass others.
- A person should respect himself or herself ... not just others.
- Accepting and enjoying individual differences between people shows respect.
- Judging others on their virtues or accomplishments shows respect.
- It is disrespectful to judge others by their race, religion, or nationality.
- It is disrespectful to judge others by their age or gender.
- Admiring someone else’s traditions shows respect.
- It is disrespectful to judge others by their physical or mental condition.
- It is disrespectful to harass or mistreat others.
- Open-mindedness about those with different opinions shows respect.
- A person should respect the earth ... not just people.
- A person should respect animals ... not just people.
- Working to solve problems without violence shows respect.

5. **Follow Up:** Distribute the *Picture It* sheets and guide the students as needed.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Reminder:** Respect means holding someone or something in esteem.

## Picture It

Find magazine and newspaper pictures, headlines, photographs, and advertisements that show something about respect. Cut them out and paste them into the space below. You may use a different background (a larger sheet of paper, a commercial ice-cream tub, paper towel-ing tubes, construction paper, or other items) if you would prefer.

Today's Thought: *I'm not concerned with your liking or disliking me ... All I ask is that you respect me as a human being.* — **Jackie Robinson, baseball player (1919-72)**