

Lesson Plan

Lesson Goals

Lesson Goal(s): Understanding Fairness

Key Understanding: What is fair? Is being fair the same as being equal? Being equal is treating everyone the same. Fairness means treating people according to their needs.

☞ Share objectives:

- Understand the difference between fairness and equality.
- Understand that treating others fairly promotes getting along with others.
- Describe how to respond to a situation with fairness.

Curriculum Introduction

☞ Introduce yourself to the group

☞ Stand where everyone can see you and hear what you say

◆ Welcome students to Character Counts

◆ Provide an overview of the program –preview program and upcoming lessons

Opening Activity – 5 to 10 Minutes

☞ Cookies and Candy

➔ With a supply of Cookies and Candy -distribute unequally/unfairly. Some should get both, some only one, some neither.

- Lead discussion on how cookies and candies were distributed – You will most likely get to”: ‘It’s not fair!’
- Redistribute so that everyone has the same number of items but not the same things.
 - Again, discuss feelings of distribution – is everyone ok with it or what are the issues –Is it equal – everyone has the same number? Is it fair? Why or Why not?

☞ **Explain** that there is a difference between being fair and being equal. Being fair to each other helps us get along with each other.

Relating Game / Activity to Character (Anchor) 5 minutes

☞ Define Fairness

☞ If you are playing baseball/softball and someone cheats, how do you feel about them?

☞ Acting fairly makes it easier to cooperate and get along.

Creating a Vision – (Add) (Content Delivery)

☞ Share objectives:

- Understand the difference between fairness and equality.
- Understand that treating others fairly promotes getting along with others.
- Describe how to respond to a situation with fairness.

☞ **Fair vs. Equal – prescription eyewear**

Respectfully demand that everyone with glasses remove them because it's not "fair" if some have glasses while the rest of the class doesn't.

→ This will challenge their thinking about fair meaning we're all the same. Lead a discussion on the problem with this. Is it equal? (Yes) Why or Why not?

→ Is it fair? (No), Why or Why not?

→ **Key Point:** fairness isn't about everything being equal, but about leveling the playing field so that people get what they need when they need it. Does everyone 'need' eyeglasses? What if they 'need' them – can't see but do not have them?

☞ **Define: (dictionary definition)**

Equality: the quality or state of being equal; the quality or state of having the same rights, social status, etc.

Fairness: justice or equity in the way people are treated

◆ We need to treat people in a fair and just way. When we are fair, others will know we can be trusted.

(Eyeglass concept obtained from: <https://freespiritpublishingblog.com/2016/02/01/thats-not-fair-teaching-kids-the-difference-between-fair-and-equal/>)

Application and Reflection (Apply)

☞ **Activity:** Fair or Foul – may use ball and bat for props

→ Once students understand and can discern between equality and fairness, use examples from their everyday life for prompts in a game of "Fair or Foul?"

→ Do these scenarios hit a fair ball or a foul ball in the game of life? If foul, how can they be changed to make the situation fair?

→ Some scenarios you can use are:

Your older sister gets to stay up later than you.

Your brother got money for his birthday and you didn't.

Your friend brings her ball to school but won't let you play with it.

Nick always gets to be the line leader.

You save a seat for someone in the cafeteria.

Your friend lets you cut in line in front of him at the drinking fountain.

(Activity obtained from: <https://freespiritpublishingblog.com/2016/02/01/thats-not-fair-teaching-kids-the-difference-between-fair-and-equal/>)

Summarize Key Concepts

- Fairness means giving people what they need to succeed.
- Acting fairly builds positive relationships and teamwork
- Fair and equal may not be the same thing.

Assessment and Goal Setting (10 Minutes) (Away and Goal-Setting)

•Assessment

☞ Fair Egg Experiment

→Materials: Clear drinking glass filled with cup of water; 1 fresh egg, ¼ cup salt, permanent marker and tablespoon.

- Carefully place the egg in the glass of water. (Name the egg if you wish.) Tell students that the egg represents someone who isn't being treated fairly. The egg should sink to the bottom.
- Ask for how they think this feels? This might represent how you feel when you are treated unfairly: sad, depressed, defeated, unappreciated, unloved, un-liked.
- Remove the egg from the water and set it aside.
- Explain:** Can we make the egg float with fairness
 - The salt represents different ways to show fairness to others.
 - Ask each student to explain a way to show fairness as they add 1 Tablespoon of salt to the glass.
 - examples:
 - Following the rules of a game, taking turns, helping someone, doing your own schoolwork.
 - Put the egg back in the water. (Add a smiley face with marker, if you wish). It will now float.
 - Explain that now the egg is supported with fairness and acceptance.

OR

☞ Pair Share and Report

- Working with a partner or in a small group, ask students to think of a situation and how they could make it fair or equal – explain which it is and why.
- You could also use the situations on the handout: 'Unfairness Files/Dealing with Unfairness'

☞ Handout – Review 'Dealing with Unfairness'

Bridge

– preview next lesson- next Pillar - Caring