

Dear Families:

We continue to build our social skill concepts on a weekly basis. Our next social skill is 'Using Nice Talk'. On the back you will find the 'Using Nice Talk' skill along with the steps the students learn regarding how to apply 'Using Nice Talk'. Please reinforce these steps at home to help your child make the connection from home to school. Not every skill applies to each child; however, we teach them as a class so students can support one another in using the steps properly. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,
Ms. DeSoucey
Ms. Marks

Skill this Week



Skill 2: Using Nice Talk

STEPS

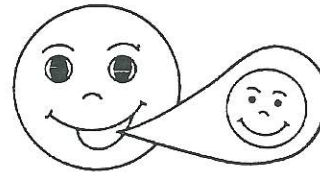
1. Use a friendly look.

Discuss how your body and facial expressions can give a friendly or unfriendly look. You may want to act out different facial expressions and body postures to help the children identify what is friendly.



2. Use a friendly voice.

Tell the children that a friendly voice is an “inside” voice—not loud like they might use outside, angry, or whining. Again, you may wish to act out different voice tones and volumes and have the children identify which ones are friendly.



SUGGESTED SITUATIONS

School: A teacher asks you to do a favor.

Home: A parent has just reminded you to pick up your toys.

Peer group: A friend is playing with the toy you wanted.

COMMENTS

This skill is intended to be used with other skills that require a verbal response. The children can be helped to understand that often it's not so much what is said as the way it is said that may elicit an angry response. Once children have learned this skill, reminding them to use nice talk can reduce the frequency of loud talking and/or whining.

RELATED SKILL-SUPPORTING ACTIVITY

Make a chart titled “Using Nice Talk.” During free play, circulate around the classroom. When a student talks in an unfriendly or angry way, quietly take the child aside and prompt him or her to use “nice talk.” When the student uses the skill, put a smiley-face sticker on the chart. Provide a total class special activity when the chart is filled with stickers.