

Lesson 3.3

Honesty

<i>Time frame</i>	<i>Segments</i>	<i>Options</i>	<i>Est. Duration</i>
	Gathering Activity	Block Towers	15 min
	Welcome Time	<i>Follow Your Group's Established Routine</i>	15 min
	Lesson	Telling the Truth	10 min
	Music and Movement	Song: Always Tell the Truth	10 min
	<i>Choose one or more</i>	Game: Wiggle and Freeze	10 min
		Puppet Shows: About Honesty	15 min
	Free Play		20 min
	Snack Time	<i>Crackers and cheese, seasonal fruits</i>	20 min
	Mellow Time	Story: Robert and the Dog	10 min
	<i>Choose one or both</i>	Story: The New Baby	10 min
	Arts and Crafts	Lacing Spider Webs	15 min
	<i>Choose one</i>	Stick Puppets	15 min
	Activities	Action Poem: Ten Little Friends	5 min
	<i>Choose one or more</i>	Activity: Cooperative Cooking	20 min
		Discussion: Review Honesty	5 min
	Goodbye Time	<i>Follow Your Group's Established Routine</i>	5 min

Gathering Activity

Block Towers

Have wooden blocks available for the children to build structures as they come to Joy School. If you do not have wooden blocks, empty cardboard boxes or cans also work well.

Lesson

Discussion: Honesty

- “Do you remember when you talked about always telling about how you feel and not trying to hide it? That’s called being CANDID. It’s also called being HONEST about our feelings. Being honest means saying what we really feel, or telling what really happened. It means telling the truth.”
- “What is telling the truth? What does it mean to tell the truth?”

Add to the children’s answers, if necessary, to bring out that telling the truth means to tell things as they are, what really happened, what you really think, and how you really feel. Ask the following questions:

1. If you accidentally bumped into your mother’s plant and knocked some leaves off of it and then told mother that the baby pulled them off, would that be telling the truth? (*no*) What would that be? (*a lie*)
 2. What if your daddy asked you to go out and turn off the hose, but you were busy doing something else and you forgot to do it. Then, if daddy said, “Did you turn off the hose?” and you said, “Yes,” would that be telling the truth? (*No, that would be a lie.*)
 3. If you promised your friend, “I’ll give you some candy if you let me ride your bike,” but you really didn’t even have any candy, would you be telling the truth? (*No, that would be a lie because you couldn’t keep your promise, could you?*)
 4. What if you took your little brother’s toy away from him and made him cry. Then if Mother said, “Why is he crying?” and you said, “I don’t know,” would that be the truth? (*no*)
- Before going on with the next situation, ask, “How do you think you would feel if you told a lie?” (*sad, bad, worried, ashamed, awful*)
 - 5. What if _____ (name of child in your group) invited _____ and _____ (name other children) to his birthday party, but he didn’t invite you, and you felt really bad. If you said to your mom, “I don’t care. I didn’t want

to go to his party anyway.” Would that be telling the truth? (*no*) Do you think you would feel better if you said to your mom, “Mom, I wish I could go to the party. I feel so sad” . . . and if, maybe you even cried a little to get the sad out.

- Now tell the children, “I have two more questions, but first let’s stand and stretch a little. Give a few instructions such as, “Shake your arms . . . shake your legs, hop on one foot . . . now hop on the other foot.” End with:
- “Touch your shoulders, Touch your knees.
Touch your elbows, Sit down, please.”
6. What if you forgot to wash your hands for lunch and your mother said, “Did you wash your hands?” If you said, “No, I forgot,” would that be telling the truth? (*yes*)
 7. What if you took a little car from Joy School, put it in your pocket and took it home with you. Then when your mother saw you playing with it and asked, “Where did you get that little car?” if you said, “I brought it home from Joy School,” would you be telling the truth? (*yes*) But would it be okay to take something that didn’t belong to you? (*no*)

Explain that lying is not right or honest, and that it also is not honest to take something that is not yours, unless you have permission to borrow it.

- Ask, “What do you think your mother would do when you told her that you brought the toy home from Joy School?”

Help the children to come to the conclusion that she would be proud of you for telling the truth, and she would tell you that you must give the car back and say you’re sorry.

Story: Isabel’s Little Lie

Read the children this story from *Joy School Children’s Stories Vol. 1*. Do so with a lot of facial expression and animation, going slowly enough to be sure the children understand exactly what a lie is and how telling one can make it so you feel like you have to tell more.

“Isabel’s Little Lie”

One day, Isabel told a little lie. She wasn’t supposed to feed her dinner to her dog, Barker, but she did, and when her mother came in and saw her plate all clean, Isabel said that she had eaten it all. (That was a little lie, wasn’t it?) The dinner was chicken, and Barker got a little bone in his throat and pretty soon he started to cough and snort and act very uncomfortable.

“Do you know what’s wrong with Barker?” asked Mother. “No,” said Isabel. (That was another lie, wasn’t it? But Isabel had to do it so her mother wouldn’t know she told

the first lie.) Mother looked in Barker's mouth but couldn't see anything. "Did Barker eat something, Isabel?" "I don't know, Mommy." (That was another lie, wasn't it? But she didn't want her mother to know about the first two lies.)

Barker got worse, and Mother took him to the dog hospital. Isabel went too. "What happened to the dog?" asked the doctor. "We don't know," said Isabel. (That was another lie, wasn't it? But if Isabel had told, then Mother and the doctor would know she had lied before.) The dog doctor said, "If it's just a bone, we could get it out with an instrument, but it might be glass, so we may have to operate."

Isabel decided it was time to tell the truth. She said, "It's a bone, and I did know Barker ate it, and I didn't eat all my dinner, and I did give it to Barker, and I won't tell lies any more, because if you tell one you might have to more and more." Isabel started to cry, but her mother loved her, and Isabel decided she really would tell the truth from then on.

Then tell the story again, without lies:

Isabel's mother asks her if she ate all her dinner and she tells the truth, that she gave some of it to Barker. The mother goes out on the porch where Barker is and takes the chicken before Barker can chew it and get bones in his throat. The mother tells Isabel that she must never do that again, but she also tells Isabel that she is very proud of her for telling the truth.

Discussion About Truth

Briefly review with the children what a lie is and what truth is.

See how well they understand by asking questions like the following:

- Can lies get us in trouble? (*Yes, like with Isabel.*)
- Can the truth get us in trouble? (*A little, if we've done something wrong, but not nearly as much trouble as telling a lie.*)
- How do we feel if we tell a lie? (*Bad.*)
- How do we feel if we tell the truth? (*Good.*)

- What are some things that might make you *NOT* tell the truth?

→ Ask the children why people sometimes lie. The children may not know why they lie, but if they can't come up with ideas, suggest these answers and see if they agree. :

Sometimes they think:

1. "I didn't want to get in trouble."
2. "I didn't want to make mom/dad/sister/friend feel sad."
3. "I think it's funny."
4. "That's what I wanted to happen." (imagination/wishful)
5. "I don't feel like I should tell the truth."

→ You may not have the answers for how the children can overcome these reasons, but discuss them with the children as long as they stay interested. Share personal stories with them if you can. Ask them if they have any examples (you may be surprised).

Continue to let them know that they will feel happy when they tell the truth, even if they get in trouble or make someone sad when they tell the truth. The truth is ALWAYS best. "Honesty is the best policy."

Music and Movement

Do one or many of the following activities. Some activities can be repeated if the children are enjoying them.

Song: Always Tell the Truth

First let the children listen to the song. Then go over the words (one line at a time) having the children repeat them. Do it a second time and then turn on the music and sing it together.

Listen

🎵 **Always Tell the Truth**

Lyrics by Richard and Linda Eyre, Music by Wendy Shurtliff

If you tell the truth, you'll be so glad.

If you tell a lie, you'll make somebody mad!

So, be just like me. Be honest just like me.

I always tell the truth you see, *(Whisper: Tell the truth, tell the truth)*

I always tell the truth. *(Whisper: Tell the truth, tell the truth)*

Tell the truth!

Game: Wiggle and Freeze

Play some upbeat dance or classical music. Tell the children to dance as fun, beautiful, or crazy as they want, but they have to freeze when the music stops. Stop the music a number of times. On the last "freeze", tell them they need to be in their seat on the floor in front of the puppet show before the next "freeze".

Puppet Show: All About Honesty

Tell the children that they are going to see a puppet show that shows that sometimes telling the truth is really hard! But when we don't tell the truth, there are always consequences.

- Put as much expression as you can into the stories, questions, and puppet shows. Look into the children's faces so you can be aware of their responses. Are they understanding the concepts you are trying to teach?

→ You will need the same puppets used on Lesson 3.2, representing two children, a man and a woman. For a puppet stage, use the back of a sofa or an overstuffed chair, or a small blanket stretched between two straight chairs (you kneel behind). The puppet who is “talking” should be moving while the other one is held still. This makes the action easier for the children to follow.

1. A little boy goes to the store with his mother. While she is standing in line, he sees a lady drop a dollar. She didn’t know she dropped it. He picks it up and buys candy with it.

- Ask: Was this little boy honest? . . . Explain to the children that being honest means telling the truth and it means never cheating or taking something that’s not yours. Will he feel good inside? Will the lady be happy when she can’t find her dollar?

→ Do the puppet show again, only this time the boy returns the dollar. Ask: Was the little boy honest? **Do you think it was hard to give the dollar back instead of having some delicious candy?** Do you think he felt good inside when he gave the dollar back? Will the lady be happy to get her dollar back?

2. Jack was four years old. His little brother, Evan, was two. Evan was too young to talk very much. One day Jack was trying to get something off of the counter and a jar fell on the floor and broke. When Mommy came home she saw the broken jar and asked Jack what happened. Jack said that Evan pushed the jar off. Mommy got mad at Evan.

- Ask: Did Jack tell the truth? Did he tell a lie? Do you think he feels good inside? Do you think it’s fair to Evan to have his Mom be mad at him? Will Evan be sad? Will Jack be sad?

→ Do the puppet show again, only this time, Jack tells Mommy he broke the jar and says he’s very sorry. Mommy said she is proud of him for telling the truth. Ask: Did Jack tell the truth? Did he tell a lie? **Do you think it was hard to tell the truth? Do you think his mom got mad at him?** Do you think he felt good inside because he told the truth? Will Evan be glad that Jack told the truth

Sing again, “Always Tell the Truth.”

- Ask the children, “If I told you that today that you will get to have snack time and more stories and then make a special puppet of your own to take home (or whatever art project you choose), how would you feel?”
- Then say, “What if I promised you that we would do those fun things, but then I didn’t let you do them, would that be very honest? It wouldn’t, would it?”

Then tell the children that you have everything ready and “we will do those fun things.”

Mellow Time

Choose one or both of the following activities:

Story: Robert and the Dog

- ★ **Materials:** Print, cut out, and prepare the following illustrations for your display board from [Click here for illustrations](#): Robert’s face #1, Dog #1, The Big Black Dog, Robert’s face #2, Robert petting dog, Robert’s face #3
- Tell the following story, displaying the illustrations on the board when appropriate.

“Robert and the Dog”

Robert liked to help his Daddy fix things. One day when Daddy said, “Robert, will you help me fix the hinge on this door?” Robert said, “Sure I will,” and he felt proud that he was big enough to help.

Daddy said, “My screwdriver is broken. Will you go over to Mr. Brown’s house and ask if I can borrow his?”

Mr. Brown had a big black dog that always sat on the porch and it barked at Robert whenever he went by. Robert was afraid of that dog. But he didn’t want his Daddy to know he was afraid, so do you know what he said?

He said, “I can’t, Dad. My leg hurts and I can’t walk very well.” His leg didn’t really hurt, but he really was afraid of that big black dog.

Just then the doorbell rang and Daddy went to the door. Robert heard his friend asking if Robert could come out to play. And he heard his father say, “Robert’s leg is hurting so he won’t be able to play today.”

- Ask: Now how do you think Robert felt?
- Ask the children if they think it was all right for Robert to be afraid of the dog, and if he told the truth about his feelings. Then ask what they would do if they were afraid of a dog. Let them respond and then say, “Shall we tell the story again and have Robert tell his Daddy how he feels?”

Retell the story with the new ending:

When Robert’s Daddy asked him to go to Mr. Brown’s house, he didn’t want to go because he was afraid of Mr. Brown’s big black dog. He said, “Please, Dad, I don’t want to go. I’m afraid of his dog. He always barks and growls at me.” Father said, “I used to be afraid of him, too, until I got to know him. I’ll go with you and help you to get to know him.” So they went together to Mr. Brown’s house. Father talked softly to the dog and called him by name. The dog stopped barking and wagged his tail and let Robert pet him.

- Ask, "Did Robert tell the truth about his feelings? Now how do you think he feels?"

Story: The New Baby

- ★ **Materials:** Print, cut out, and prepare the following illustrations in this order for your display board from [Click here for illustrations](#): Susie's face #1, Christmas tree, Valentine, Flower, Baby, Susie's face #3, Plate of dinner, spilled milk, Susie's face #2, Susie's face #3, Susie and Mother, Susie's face #1
- Tell the following story, displaying the illustrations on the board when appropriate.

"The New Baby"

Once there was a little girl named Susie. She had a big brother named Robert, but Susie was the youngest child in her family.

Her best friend, Maria, had a baby brother. Susie thought he was so cute. She liked to go to Maria's house and see the baby. She liked it when the baby would grab onto her finger and smile at her. Sometimes Maria would even let her hold the baby. Susie wished that she had a baby brother.

Then one day Susie's mother told her that they would soon have a new baby in their family. In the spring, when winter was over. Susie was so happy she could hardly wait, but of course she would have to wait. Christmas time came and then was over. Valentine's Day came and then was over.

The snow started to melt and one day Susie saw a little purple flower poking out of the ground. It was almost spring! How excited do you think Susie felt? Yes, she was so happy, and excited.

On the very first day of spring, the new little baby was born. When mother brought him home from the hospital, Susie thought he was even cuter than Maria's baby brother. Mother let her hold him and he held tight to her finger and he yawned and made funny little faces.

For a while Susie was happy to have a new baby brother, but after a while, her feelings began to change and her happy face started to look like this. Do you know why? Susie was jealous. She didn't like the way her mother had to spend so much time with the baby and didn't have much time for her any more.

Sometimes when Susie wanted mother to read her a story, mother would say, "I can't right now, Susie, I'm feeding the baby." And if the baby started to cry while Susie and her mother were playing a game, mother would say, "I can't play any more now. The baby needs me."

It seemed as if mother was always busy with the baby. She was very jealous and she thought her mother only loved the new baby and not her. She would say to the baby, "I don't like you. I wish we didn't have you." But she didn't let her mother hear her because she thought mother wouldn't understand and would be angry.

Susie didn't know a good way to let her mother know she was jealous, so this is what she did: When she fell down, even if she didn't get hurt, she would cry and cry just so mother would come to comfort her. Sometimes she would say she was too tired to eat, just so mother would feed her. Sometimes she would knock her milk over just so mother would have to put the baby down and come clean it up. Mother would get angry and say, "Oh, Susie, you're acting like a baby." Then, how do you think Susie felt?

- Now ask the children how they would act and what they would do if they felt jealous of a new baby in the family. Let them respond and then say, "Shall we make a better ending to the story and have Susie know a better way to show her feelings?"

Susie was so happy when her new baby was born. But the baby took so much of her mother's time that after a while, Susie's feelings began to change. She was jealous. She went to her mother and said, "Mommy, you're always taking care of the baby. I feel like you don't love me anymore. Why don't we give that baby away?"

- Say, "That's how Susie really felt and she told her mother. Was it all right for Susie to say that?"

Mother put the baby in his crib and took Susie on her lap and gave her a great big hug. She said: "I'm sorry, Susie. I didn't know you were feeling that way. Babies do take a lot of time. When you were a baby, I did all these things for you and I didn't have much time for your big brother Robert. But I still love you just as much. Why don't you help me give the baby his bath and then I'll read you a story while he is asleep.

- Ask, "Now how do you think Susie feels?" She feels better. She is still a little jealous, but now she knows mother loves her and understands how she feels. She is glad that she told the truth about her feelings.

Arts and Crafts

Choose between the two following activities according to which best fits your situation.

Lacing Spider Webs

- ★ **Materials:** a paper plate (black or other dark color is preferable); two one-yard pieces of a contrasting color of yarn, two glue-on "googly eyes"; and construction paper in a

contrasting color to the plate for each child; scissors; glue; tape; and a single handheld hole puncher.

1. Before Joy School, punch holes around the edges of each plate, about a half inch apart. Tie the two pieces of string to opposite holes. Place a piece of tape around each piece of yarn so they are easier to lace through the holes.
2. Remind the children of the story, "Isabel's Little Lie". Remind them that when we don't tell the truth, we can get "caught" in a web. We will have to keep telling lies to support our past lie. Tell them that they will now make pretend webs, and that you hope it will remind them to not tell lies so they won't get caught in a "web".
3. As the kids sit down to do this craft, show them how to lace the yarn through the holes. Tell them that they should go across the plate as much as they can, so that it looks like a web.
4. As they are lacing, you will trace their hands to make spiders. To do this, have the child hold their thumb to their palm and place their hand, palm side up, on the paper.
5. Lightly trace their hand, and then have them do the same with their other hand, with their palm overlapping the previously drawn palm. You should come up with a shape with four "legs" on each side. Help the children cut out the "spider" and glue it to their plate. Glue on the "googly eyes".

Stick Puppets

★ **Materials:** Construction paper (colors to correspond with skin colors of your group of children), Two or three colors of yarn (yellow, brown, black, tan) cut to 4-inch to 8-inch lengths, Popsicle sticks (one for each child), Glue

1. Cut two face shapes out of construction paper for each child. With crayon or a marker, draw a happy face on one circle and a sad face on the other (see illustration [Click for illustration](#)). This preparation should be done in advance.
2. The children will glue the circles together with one end of a popsicle stick in between, sticking down from the chin. Then yarn can be glued around the top of the head on both sides.
3. The teacher should demonstrate the procedure first, showing how to glue the stick to one circle and then glue the other circle on top, and how, when gluing on the "hair," to put the glue on the paper (around the top and sides of the head) and not on the yarn. After giving instructions, give only what help is necessary. Watch to see that both faces are positioned so they will match up properly.
4. After the puppets are completed, use your demonstration one to show the children how they can use it for telling a little story. Make up a very short story about someone who alternately told a lie and told the truth. Turn the puppet faces back and forth to correspond with your story. Tell the children that they can take their puppets home and tell stories for their families. If any child would like to tell one for the class, and

there is time for it, let him do so. You will probably be amazed at the good attention he receives.

Activities

Choose one or more of the following three activities:

Action Poem: Ten Friends

Teach the following new finger play. After showing it, repeat it at least once more.

Ten Friends

Two little houses across the street,

(hold up both fists with thumbs tucked inside)

Open the doors and ten friends meet.

(open both hands and turn them with palms facing each other)

“How do you do”

(fingers of one hand bend down and up)

And “How do you do”

(fingers of other hand bend down and up)

Such lovely sunny weather

(twist hands back and forth at wrists)

Off they hurry to Joy School, ten little friends together.

(turn palms forward, hook thumbs together and bounce hands along as if walking forward)

Activity: Cooperative Cooking

The purpose of this activity is to show that we need to be honest in what we do and what we will say that we will do. Set the children up in an “assembly line” for a cooking or baking activity. A recipe for “apple toast” is included here, but you could use any recipe or craft that involves the same steps for each serving or craft. Give each child a responsibility in the assembly line and ask if they will promise to do their job.

- Ask the children, “What would happen if one person didn’t do their part?”
 - “Cooperation is when everyone works together to accomplish something , but everyone needs to be honest and keep their promises.”
1. Have the children wash their hands.
 2. Give each of the children a slice of toast. This recipe will serve four (or eight if you want to cut the slice in half). Have the apple slices and cinnamon and sugar mixture ready.

3. Then have the children butter their bread themselves and then pass the bread to the right for the next child to put on the apple slices and pass it again to sprinkle sugar, so that everyone feels that they have helped make the others', using the recipe below:

Apple Toast

1/4 Cup sugar

1 tsp. cinnamon

2 Apples (peeled, if desired)

2 Tbsp. butter, softened

4 Slices of bread

Mix sugar and cinnamon and set aside. Core apples and slice into 1/4 inch rings. Spread butter on bread. Top with apple rings. Put sugar mixture in a shaker and sprinkle over apples. Bake at 375° for 20 minutes.

(4 servings)

Discussion: Summary of Honesty and Candor Lessons

- Ask the children the following:
 1. Did we do all the things I promised we would do today? (Make something good for snack, puppet shows, make your own puppet, etc.)
 2. Does everyone have feelings?
 3. Is it okay to show your feelings? (Yes, if you show them in a way that doesn't hurt others.)
 4. Is it alright to cry? (Yes, if there is really something to cry about.)
 5. Does telling the truth help to make you happy?
 6. Have you had any "happys" or any "sads" today? As in the previous lesson, give each child a turn to tell a "happy" or a "sad" (or both) if he wants to.
 7. End by singing, "Be Honest and True." or "Always Tell the Truth". [Click for song](#)

Note to Parents

Lesson 3.3 Honesty

Dear Mom and Dad,

We learned a lot today about being honest. Last time, we learned about being honest about our emotions, and today, we learned about always telling the truth and doing what we know is the right thing to do.

I'm going to try to be honest instead of telling a lie because I am afraid of getting in trouble. It is always better to tell the truth!

Lesson 3.3 Honesty

Dear Mom and Dad,

We learned a lot today about being honest. Last time, we learned about being honest about our emotions, and today, we learned about always telling the truth and doing what we know is the right thing to do.

I'm going to try to be honest instead of telling a lie because I am afraid of getting in trouble. It is always better to tell the truth!

Lesson 3.3 Honesty

Dear Mom and Dad,

We learned a lot today about being honest. Last time, we learned about being honest about our emotions, and today, we learned about always telling the truth and doing what we know is the right thing to do.

I'm going to try to be honest instead of telling a lie because I am afraid of getting in trouble. It is always better to tell the truth!

Lesson 3.3 Honesty

Dear Mom and Dad,

We learned a lot today about being honest. Last time, we learned about being honest about our emotions, and today, we learned about always telling the truth and doing what we know is the right thing to do.

I'm going to try to be honest instead of telling a lie because I am afraid of getting in trouble. It is always better to tell the truth!

Lesson 3.3 Honesty

Dear Mom and Dad,

We learned a lot today about being honest. Last time, we learned about being honest about our emotions, and today, we learned about always telling the truth and doing what we know is the right thing to do.

I'm going to try to be honest instead of telling a lie because I am afraid of getting in trouble. It is always better to tell the truth!

Lesson 3.3 Honesty

Dear Mom and Dad,

We learned a lot today about being honest. Last time, we learned about being honest about our emotions, and today, we learned about always telling the truth and doing what we know is the right thing to do.

I'm going to try to be honest instead of telling a lie because I am afraid of getting in trouble. It is always better to tell the truth!