

Following the Rules

Skill Area(s):
Stress/Behavior
Feelings/Emotions

Level: beginner, intermediate

Goal: Students are able to explain and what respect and following the rules mean and why it is important

Materials needed: Book- Following the Rules from the Character Education series available through the creative teaching press, markers, poster board, paint and brushes, paper, pencils

Activity: This activity can be done at when starting the group to help develop rules for the group.

- ◆ Students read the book together and talk about vocabulary words like respect and rules.
- ◆ Go through each page and brainstorm ways that students can show respect, take care of property etc.
- ◆ As a group talk about what is respectful in school and at home and why it is important.
- ◆ Write the word RESPECT on the board and brainstorm as a group, words or a sentence that describes respect.
- ◆ Have each person in the group decorate a letter and write the sentence that goes with the letter. May be displayed in the room. Example: R stands for responsibility or resolving problems.
- ◆ Talk about rules both at home and at school. In pairs, brainstorm why rules are important and share with the group.
- ◆ Students can make a “rules” poster for their room or locker at school. Encourage them to think about the rules they choose and if they are respectful to others.
- ◆ Play a game with the group. The first time around, don’t tell anyone the rules. Discuss how the group went. Did everyone have fun? Was it respectful to make up the rules? Was it confusing to have a game without rules? Next play the same game but explain the rules. Afterwards talk about which way was easier and more fair.
- ◆ Have students make word finds on <http://puzzlemaker.schooldiscovery.com> with rules that they have come up with.

Follow up: There is a coordinating CD or cassette that goes with each book in the character education series. This has not been previewed by the group but should be available through the Creative Teaching Press.