

The Good Eggs

Chapter 2: Forgiveness (October)

Chapter Review:

In only his second month in his new school, Benedict jumps to a conclusion without knowing all of the facts. He thinks his new friends would purposely not invite him to the class Halloween party. Instead of asking for an explanation, he decides revenge is the best tactic. He tries to ruin the Halloween party by dumping most of the snacks, and even decides to keep one bag of pretzels for himself. He is questioned by his friends and soon realizes that he misinterpreted the situation and acted foolishly, thus finding himself needing forgiveness from the Eggs. Their forgiveness frees Benedict, which allows him to put the incident behind him and enjoy the party.

The Lesson:

When we forgive someone, we give them (and ourselves) an opportunity for a fresh start.

Overview:

Conflict resolution and problem solving, creating an acronym.

Materials:

Magazine or internet pictures, paper, pencil, crayons.

The Good Eggs resolved the conflict with Benedict by pointing out his error, while at the same time, accepting his apology and offering forgiveness. They helped him see the situation from a new perspective.

In class or for an at-home assignment, look for pictures on the internet or in a magazine of people in conflict (quarreling, fighting over games, toys, etc.) Have each student choose one picture and use their imagination by writing a short paragraph about the picture, explaining what the argument is about, and then how the conflict can be resolved. Have them offer two or three different solutions. Make sure the feelings of the characters involved in the story are discussed. The story must end with forgiveness.

The Good Eggs did not berate Benedict but remained calm and used kind words to teach.

Create an anagram - write the word FORGIVENESS vertically on a piece of paper in bubble letters. Come up with positive words for each letter that relate to forgiveness, e.g. F is for friendship, O is for others, R is for respect, and so on. Color the anagram in bright colors and hang it up in your classroom!

Reflection:

For forgiveness to be fully effective: it must be freely given and freely received. There cannot be any strings or stipulations attached. It must also be sincere and genuine. There is nothing fake about true forgiveness.

Forgiveness cannot just come from the lips, nor can it be limited to the mind. True forgiveness must come from and flow through the heart.

If you choose, share a story of forgiveness from your own life with your class; when your students hear of you forgiving, they will do the same.



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