



## Second Grade Unit 1: Navigate My Community

Essential Question #4: How can I be a responsible citizen in our community?

### Lesson Title: Do Unto Otters

### SS Standard II, Objective 1

**Implementation Time:** 45 minutes

**Media Resources Needed:** *Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners* by Laurie Keller

### Materials Needed:

Chart paper/white board (for class list)  
Marker  
White drawing paper (1 per student)  
Pencils  
Crayons

### Procedure:

1. Write the following on the board: “Do not do to others that which would anger you if others did it to you.” - Socrates (Greek philosopher, 470-399 B.C.)
1. Activate students’ background knowledge of “the golden rule” from first grade. Remind them that “the golden rule” is a concept that, while worded differently, is part of most major world religions and cultures (point out ancient version by Socrates). Explain that “do unto others as you would have others do unto you” is another way of saying the same thing: treat people the way you want to be treated.
2. Tell students you are going to read them a book about treating others the way you want to be treated. Assign students to listen and watch for ways Mr. Rabbit treats his new neighbors, the Otters.
3. Read *Do Unto Otters*, pausing to discuss and make predictions. List the ideas Mr. Owl suggests and Mr. Rabbit uses his new neighbors: smile, be cheerful, be polite, say please/thank you, play fair, honesty, caring, consideration, respect, etc.



4. Explain that good manners, honesty, and consideration for others are part of being a good citizen in school and in the community.

### **Assessment:**

Model how to fold a blank sheet of white drawing paper into four squares. Show examples of comic strips from the newspaper, illustrating how each “frame” of a comic strips tells part of a story or plot.

Assign students to draw a four-frame comic strip with characters from the book *Do Unto Otters* (encourage them to include other animals) that illustrates and exchange between animals using manners and good citizenship skills. Include word bubbles.

### **Extension:**

Role play scenarios as a class/in centers where students can practice the manners and good citizenship skills highlighted in the book.