



1st Grade

Unit 2: Explore My Neighborhood

Essential Question #4: What is my role and responsibility in my neighborhood?

Lesson Title: The Golden Rule

SS Standard II, Objective 2

Implementation Time: Two 30 minute lessons

Media Resources Needed: *The Golden Rule* by Ilene Cooper

Materials Needed:

Chart paper/white board
Markers
Drawing paper
Pencils
Crayons

Procedure:

Note: This lesson is intended to synthesize students' learning from throughout the year. Consider using visual reminders (books, artwork, pictures, etc.) to activate students' background knowledge of various topics.

1. Review the concepts of community, community helpers and neighborhood. Ask students to reflect on all that they have learned this year about their community. Chart students' responses.
2. Remind students of the rules/ "Code of Conduct" that the class has used all year. Discuss the ways that following rules and treating each other with respect have made the classroom a more pleasant place. Draw a parallel between rules at school and rules in community – they help people get along and stay safe.
3. Reflect on all the diverse neighborhood visitors that have visited the class this year and how much each of them has to contribute to the community/neighborhood.
4. Read *The Golden Rule*. Discuss the importance of treating other people the way you yourself want to be treated and the way you want your family and friends to be treated.



5. Give each student a piece of paper and have them trace their hand.
6. Help students brainstorm all the things they can do to apply the “golden rule” in their neighborhood community; i.e. don’t vandalize, be respectful of people’s property, be polite, share, etc. Have students four things they can do “with their own hands” to be a good, responsible member of their neighborhood community – one on each finger. On the thumb, have students write “the golden rule” and tell them the “rule of thumb” is to always treat others as you yourself want to be treated. Decorate and allow students to share with class.

Assessment:

Assign students to take their hands home and discuss with their parents the things they can do “with their own hands” to be a good, responsible member of their neighborhood community. Tell them to explain the “golden rule” to their parents.