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#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Meiners, Cheri J., 1957-

Be polite and kind / Cheri J. Meiners; illustrations by Meredith Johnson.

p. cm. — (Learning to get along)

 $Summary: Demonstrates \ ways \ of \ showing \ politeness, \ speaking \ kindly, using \ basic \ courtesies, \ and \ respecting \ the \ feelings \ of \ others.$ 

Includes role-playing activities.

ISBN 1-57542-151-8

- 1. Courtesy—Juvenile literature. 2. Kindness—Juvenile literature. 3. Conduct of life—Juvenile literature.
- [1. Etiquette. 2. Conduct of life.] I. Johnson, Meredith, ill. II. Title.

BJ1533.C9M45 2003

177'.1—dc22

2003019873

ISBN: 978-1-57542-151-3

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Reading Level Grade 1; Interest Level Ages 4–8; Fountas & Pinnell Guided Reading Level H

Cover and interior design by Marieka Heinlen Edited by Marjorie Lisovskis

25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 Printed in China R18860717

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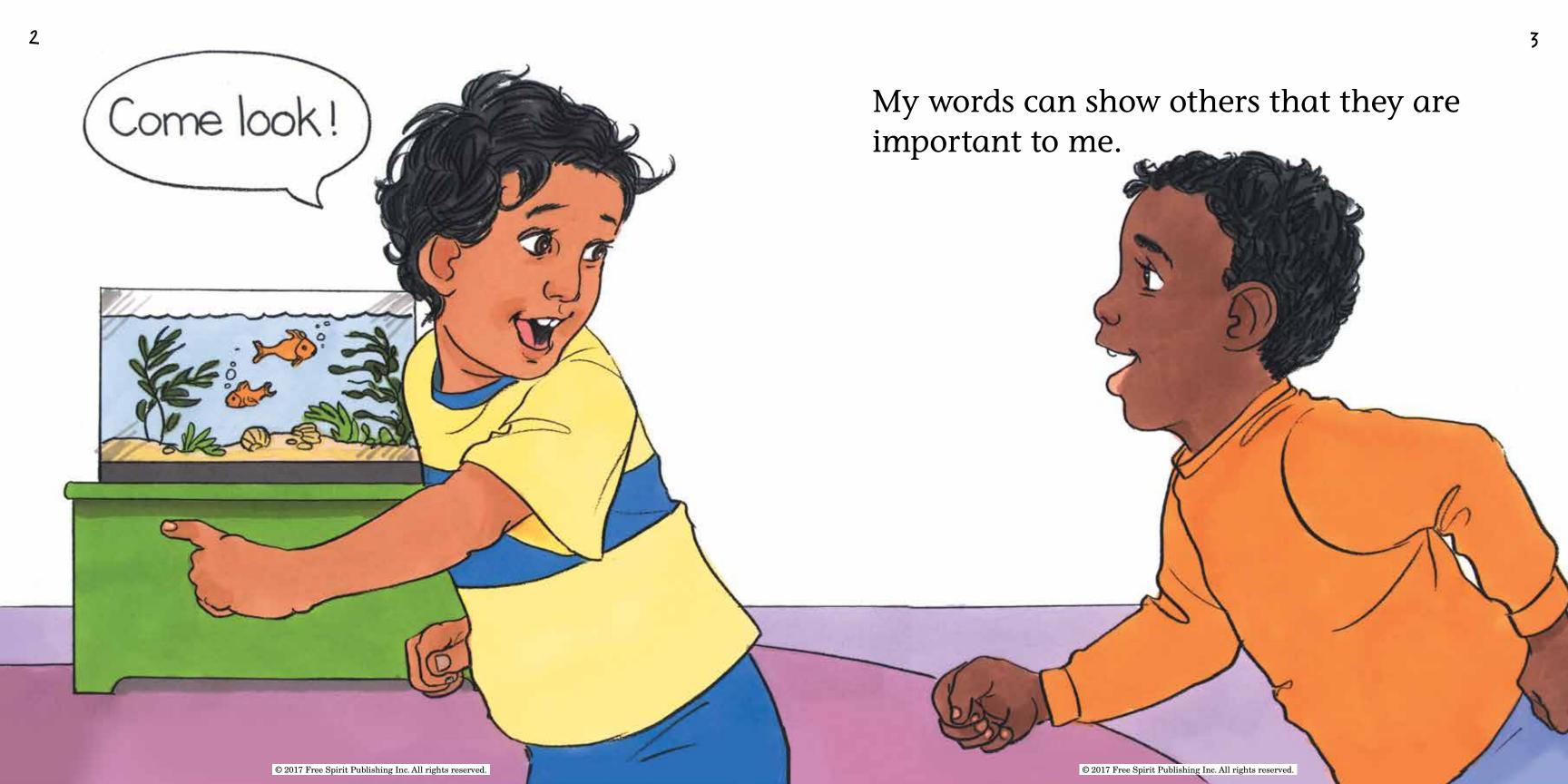
# Dedication

To James, whose kind words reflect a generous heart

# Acknowledgments

I wish to thank Meredith Johnson for her beautiful illustrations. I also thank Judy Galbraith and all those at Free Spirit who believed in this series. Special thanks go to Marieka Heinlen for the lovely design and to Margie Lisovskis who, as editor, has contributed her wonderful expertise and creativity. Finally, I am grateful to Mary Jane Weiss, Ph.D., whose insight, skill, and caring have done much to advance the field of teaching social skills.





# Ways to Reinforce the Ideas in Be Polite and Kind

# As you read each page spread, ask children:

- What's happening in this picture?
- Who's being polite (kind)? How can you tell?

### Here are additional questions you might discuss:

#### Pages 1-3

- Who do you talk with every day?
- How do you show other people they are important to you? What do you do? What do you say?

#### **Pages 4–25**

- When are some times that you say "Thank you" ("You're welcome," "Excuse me," "I'm sorry")?
- What does it mean to be polite (kind)? How does it feel when someone says polite (kind) words to you? Why?
- How does it feel when someone is *not* polite (kind)?

#### Pages 26-27

- What is respect? (You might explain respect by saying, "When you show respect to people, you show that you think they are important. Being polite and kind shows respect. It feels good to be treated with respect.")
- (Read and point to each polite phrase) When do you say (ask) this? What are some other ways to say (ask) it? Note: The boy and his sister are speaking in American Sign Language (ASL). The girl is saying "Thank you"; the boy is saying "You're welcome." The activity on pages 33–34 teaches how to sign some polite phrases.

#### Pages 28-31

• Why is it important to be polite and kind?

• At school, Vivek asks to go to the bathroom.

# Politeness Games

Read this book often with your child or group of children. Once children are familiar with the book, refer to it when teachable moments arise involving manners, kindness, and respect. Make it a point to notice and comment when children's words and actions are courteous and thoughtful. In addition, use the activities on pages 33–35 to reinforce children's understanding of how to be polite and kind. Most of the activities refer to these words and scenarios:

Please.

Sample Scenarios:

You're welcome.

I'm sorry.

Hello.

Good job!

Thank you. Excuse me.

May I?

• Sarah's mom gave Sarah a snack.

Katie's teacher said she likes what Katie wrote.

• The sitter thanked Zach for helping set the table.

- When Andrea's friend was talking, Andrea yawned.
- A friend told Erika, "I like your shirt."
- At home, Damani wants to play with his sister's stuffed animal.
- Joseph's dad put a bandage on Joseph's knee.
- James opened the door when someone knocked. It was his friend.
- While walking in a line, Ka bumped into someone.

## What Do You Say?

#### Level 1

Read aloud one of the sample scenarios (or make up your own). Ask: "What can this person say?" (As a prompt, you may want to display the respectful words on a board or poster and refer to them.)

#### Level 2

**Preparation:** Give children three index cards apiece and have them write a different phrase (respectful words) on each card.

Read aloud one of the scenarios. Say: "Imagine you are (name of person in scenario). What do you say? If one of your cards has a good answer, raise your hand." Invite children to read their appropriate words.

### Beanbag Toss

**Preparation:** Use one beanbag and the scenarios. Before the game, you may want to think of additional scenarios or invite children to suggest some. Write these down for your own reference.

#### Level 1

Explain that you will tell a short story, ask a question, and toss the beanbag to someone. Children are to remain quiet so the child with the beanbag can respond. Assure children that everyone will get a turn. Read a scenario and ask: "What can (name of person) say?" Throw the beanbag to a child. The child responds. Read the next scenario; then have the child throw the beanbag to someone else to answer. If a child does not answer correctly, discuss the appropriate response and then give the child another chance with a new scenario.

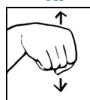
#### Level 2

Follow the steps in Level 1, but instead of reading scenarios to children, have them think of their own scenarios as they play.

### Manners Signing

Teach children how to use American Sign Language (ASL) to sign the following respectful words:

"Yes"



"No"



"Please"



"Thank you" "You're welcome"



10 Kg)

"I'm sorry"