

# Cool Tool

## *Playground Safety*

### School-Wide Expectation: Respect Others

#### Purpose of the Lesson – Why is it important?

1. To teach students that including others in play, taking turns, and sharing displays respect of others and a kindness that benefits everyone.
2. To maintain an emotionally and physically safe environment for everyone to play.
3. To teach students that when they play respectfully with peers, their peers will probably remember to do the same for them.

#### Teaching Examples

1. You see one of your classmates wandering around the playground during most of recess time. You know she is kind of shy and usually doesn't ask to join in the fun. **You decided to be a good friend and invite her to play by saying, "We are having fun playing 4 square. Would you like to join us?" You feel good inside because your classmate gave you a big smile for including her.**
2. Two even teams were playing basketball at recess when another student came by and asked to play. One of the students yelled, "No, the teams are full!" **You stopped and remembered that it is respectful and kind to include others and take turns, so you said, "She can switch in and out with me so that we can all play."**
3. A boy was swinging on the swings and wanted to get the attention of another group of boys playing nearby. He yelled out, "Watch me! I am going to jump from way up here." **You heard him, turned around, and yelled, "Don't jump! You'll hurt yourself."**
4. You are playing soccer with your classmates. One of your team members begins to trash talk the other team during the game. **You remember that everyone should be a good sport and remind your teammate that talking badly about another team is not showing respect for others.**
5. You are playing football and thought another player made a bad call about the play you just made. **You start to get angry and upset, but remember that good sports do not argue about the call. You wait until you are calm before asking the other player why the call was made.**

#### Role Plays

1. List activities that students can choose to do at recess. Have them make a plan for play by listing three activities that they would choose to do.
2. Ask your students why they think it is important to include others. Have them share examples of how they felt when they were left out of an activity or game.
3. Discuss situations that include taking turns and or including and being included with others. List phrases that students can use when wanting to join in with others who are already playing, phrases on how to ask another to play, and phrases on what to say to others to involve them in play or conversation.
4. Review 10 Way to be a Good Sport.

### **Follow-up/Reinforcement Activities**

1. Before going to recess, ask students to share their plan for play.
2. After recess ask students if they participated in their first, second or third choice for recess.
3. Ask students how they were a good sport at recess.
4. Provide verbal praise to those who are exhibiting good playground behavior.
5. Review school playground expectations.
6. Reinforce appropriate playground behavior with Star Cards.

### **10 Ways to Be a Good Sport**

Here are some ways that you can show others what good sportsmanship is all about:

1. Be polite to everyone you're playing with and against. Only use nice words while you're in the middle of a game.
2. Play your best. If you're good, people will notice.
3. Tell your opponents "good game!" whether you've won or you've lost.
4. Learn the rules of the game.
5. Play by the rules!
6. Be respectful to the referees. If you don't agree or don't understand a certain call, wait until after the game to ask someone to explain it to you.
7. Be a good teammate, and encourage your teammates even if you lose. Try to learn from what happened.
8. Be willing to sit out so other team members can get in the game - even if you think you're a better player.
9. Play fair.
10. Cheer for your teammates even if the score is 1,000-1! You could inspire a big comeback!