

# PLAY BY THE RULES

## OBJECTIVE

To teach children to be honest at all times and play by the rules

## MATERIALS

- ✓ Copies of The Badge of Honor (see end of Lesson)
- ✓ Bright yellow construction paper
- ✓ Blue poster board
- ✓ Blue ribbon, 1/2" wide
- ✓ Glue
- ✓ Markers
- ✓ Scissors

## INSTRUCTIONS

♥ If you can be trusted in little things, you will be given bigger things. ♥

*Demonstrate the following as you explain:*

- ♥ There is no such thing as a "little white lie." Either you tell the truth or you don't. Being honest in all that you do, makes you a child that is trustworthy.
- ♥ Don't exaggerate to impress people. Others know when you're "talking big."
- ♥ If you're told not to do something, then, DON'T DO IT. Rules are made to protect you, not to spoil your fun. Rules help you, not hurt you.
- ♥ Be sure your actions match your words.
- ♥ You can't tell just one lie. You'll have to tell another lie to cover the first one
- ♥ If you follow the rules, you will be safe and happy. Learning to "play by the rules" gives you the freedom to have fun without worry.



Let's see what happens to Penelope and Peter one day when they forget to follow the rules.

### ♥ BREAKING THE RULES ♥

As Penelope and Peter run outside to play, Wilbur reminds them to stay in their own backyard. They both say, "Yes, Sir."

They decide to play catch. Penelope throws the ball to Peter. As they play, they throw longer and higher, moving out of their yard. Penelope realizes they've gone too far, but Peter says, "It's OK, it's no big deal. We're not doing anything wrong." As Peter throws the ball back to Penelope, he throws it REALLY HIGH and REALLY LONG. The ball goes beyond Penelope's reach and heads straight for Mrs. McDonald's garage window! CRASH, the window shatters.

Scared. They run home.

Later, Mrs. McDonald comes over to ask about the broken window. Penelope and Peter overhear the conversation . . .

Peter says, "I wish we had listened to Wilbur. We agreed to stay in our own yard, but we broke the rule."

Penelope replies, "Yeah, and we broke Mrs. McDonald's window, too."

They decide to confess what they had done. Wilbur is disappointed, but glad they've decided to be honest. They all three go to Mrs. McDonald's house, apologize, and repair her window.

Guess what? Mrs. McDonald appreciates their honesty so much, she shares her fresh baked chocolate chip cookies with them!



Penelope and Peter break the rule that was meant to protect them. Trouble happens when they break the rule. Thank goodness they decided to be honest before it was too late. No matter what happens, being honest is always the right thing to do.

## ACTIVITIES

### ♥ Wilbur Says ♥

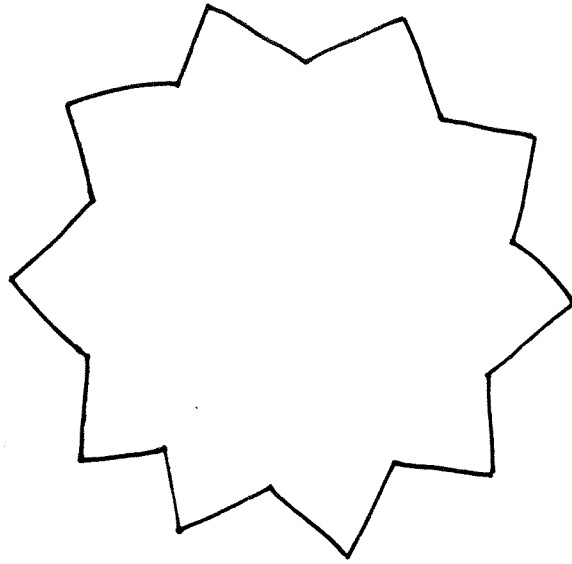
You can play the old game SIMON SAYS to reinforce following the rules. Use Wilbur to call out the commands. Call the game, "Wilbur Says." Wilbur calls out directions, such as, "Wilbur says, stand up and turn around." Everyone must follow the directions as long as he begins with, "Wilbur says. . ." As the children make mistakes, they have to drop out. Keep going until there is a winner.

### ♥ Badge of Honor ♥

Cut two pieces of ribbon 3" long. Notch one end of each ribbon. Using the patterns cut the pointed circle (A) from blue poster paper. Cut a circle (B) of yellow paper. Glue it to the center of the blue circle. On the back, glue the two ribbons in place, overlapping the ends.

Write the words "BADGE OF HONOR" in the center of the yellow circle. (Optional: Glue a safety pin on the back.)

Encourage the children to pass it on to the first person they see who's helping someone. Award them with the Badge of Honor.



A.



B.



**BADGE OF HONOR**