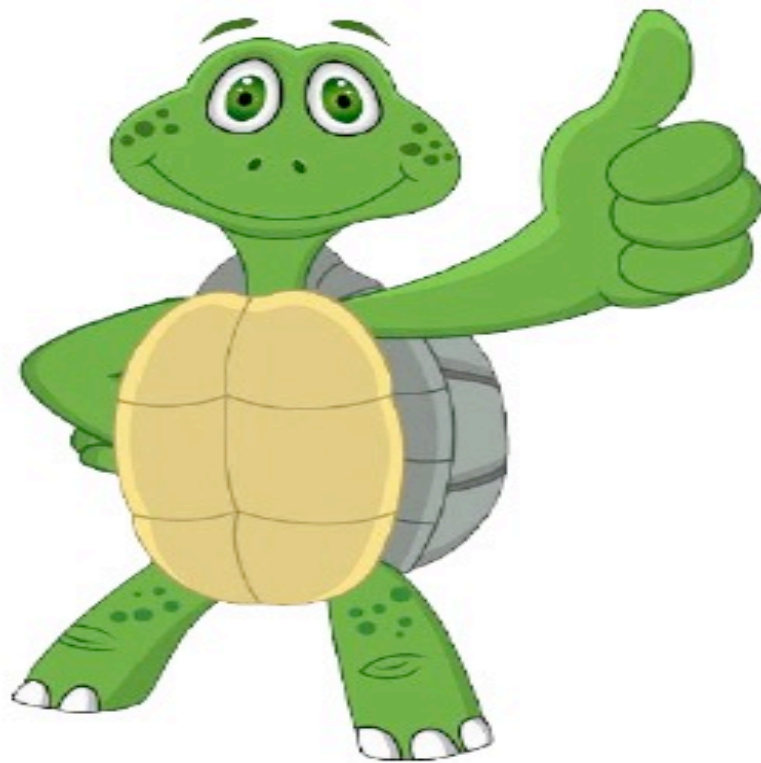


Truthful Turtle

A Cosmos Grow Adventure



Truthful Turtle: (Social Skills/Honesty)

Truthfulness is a quality most of us want in our children. This story illustrates that the ability to be truthful is not so much about avoiding punishment as it is about being brave, generous and kind.



more LESSON PLANS

Truthful Turtle

A. Main Focus:

Truthfulness is a quality that most of us agree is positive in children. This story illustrates that the ability to be truthful is not just about avoiding punishment, but also about being brave, generous, and kind.

B. The Main Concepts:

As adults, we like to “keep it simple” when trying to explain complex concepts to children. Take “Truthfulness” for example ... “Always tell the truth” is our adult “rule”.

Sounds good but like many “rules”, it is very rigid and therein is the problem. For very young children, such a rule may work but as they get older, they need to understand that as with most things, “flexibility” is a valuable component to almost any rule.

Consequently, in our story, Cosmos talks about the differences in turtles, their sizes, their colors and that “Some turtles are truthful, some are fairly truthful, some are not so truthful and some are almost never truthful.” The story illustrates the various “levels” of truthfulness and how it affects our lives.

C. Teach the Defining Terms to The Students

D. Listen to the Flip Book Story

E. Sample Dialogue with Students after Listening to the Story

The first turtle we meet is Tammy Turtle. What level of truthfulness is Tammy? (an untruthful turtle).

That is correct. She used untruthfulness when she did not want to take responsibility or to get others to do things for her that she should be doing for herself.

Sometimes we get into a habit of not being truthful in order to avoid someone being upset with us or to avoid being fussed at, just like Tammy. Tammy also was

untruthful when she blamed the other turtles. How do you think the other turtles felt when she blamed them?

Blaming other is what kind of thinking? Stinky

The next Turtle in our story was Terry Turtle. What level of truthfulness was Terry? (sometimes truthful)

Terry had a special friend that helped him to be truthful. Who was this friend? (Honest Blue)

Why was Terry avoiding Honest Blue, his best friend, in the story? (Because Terry was afraid that Honest Blue would tell his father the truth that he did not study for his test and was playing games instead)

Terry thought that it would be better to avoid his best friend than to be honest with his father. How do you think that Honest Blue felt?

Sometimes we may have friends that try to encourage us to be truthful and we chose to avoid them and to be untruthful instead.

Which Turtle in the story was Always Truthful? (Tanya Turtle)

What qualities did Tanya have that helped her to be always truthful? (She was responsible, honest, and brave)

Did Tanya have a friend like Honest Blue to help her be truthful? (No, she used her own thoughts and self-talk to tell herself that it was important to tell the truth)

“It is my fault that I went to the skate board park instead of studying. I was irresponsible and I will tell my father what happened. If he punishes me, I can deal with it and I will never do this again.”

Learning how to always be truth may take time and it is not always easy. What are some examples of when it may feel hard to tell the truth?

Just remember as the story says in the end, “Being truthful will make you brave and others will recognize that you can be trusted, which will cause them to admire you. All of this will happen because you are a Truthful Turtle.

