

WEEK 19 Respecting Privacy



Dear Parent/Guardian,

For Your Heart

Learning how gossip hurts everyone—the one who is talked about and the one doing the talking—teaches children to choose their words carefully. This week, third graders are learning the following:

- What gossiping really is and why it is hurtful to others.
- What to do if friends are gossiping.
- Why it is important to keep a friend's secret.
- When someone is in danger, it's not gossiping to share with an adult.
- When it is okay to tell an adult about an incident.

For the Heart of Your Child

Take time at home this week to reinforce what your child is learning about gossiping at school:

- Share a personal experience with your child about a time someone spread gossip about you. Talk about how it made you feel. Invite your child to share a similar experience with you.
- Talk with your child about the difference between keeping someone's confidence or secret and reporting when someone is in danger. Remind your child that he/she needs to care for friends by sharing dangerous secrets with a trusted adult.
- Share an embarrassing moment with your child. Tell your child you are trusting him/her to keep your moment a secret and that you know he/she is trustworthy enough to do it. You will empower your child by sharing a secret and saying you trust him/her.
- Set a good example for your child by respecting others' privacy yourself, not eavesdropping and refraining from gossip.

From Our Hearts to Yours,



PS Don't forget to ask your child to define CONSIDERATE and TRUSTWORTHY!

CONSIDERATE—Taking into account the feelings of others before you speak or act

TRUSTWORTHY—Doing what you said you would do when you said you would do it

