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	TITLE: MENDING MISTAKES			

Recommended Grade Levels: K-5

Applicable Character Traits: Responsibility

Objective:

Children discuss mistakes, acknowledging them and possibly fixing them, not blaming others.

Time Frame: (Approximately 20-30 minutes)

Approximately how long the entire lesson should take to complete. It's nice to let the teacher know, so you are both on the same page.

Materials/ Preparation:

- Copies of *Mistake Line* handout (one for each child).
- Pencils or Crayons
- Responsibility Statement (attached)
- Suggested books to read after this activity

For K to 2nd:


- *The Bernstein Bears' Trouble at School*
- *Know and Follow Rules* by Cheri J. Meiners
- *Regina's Big Mistake*

For 3rd to 5th:

- *How to Avoid the Blame Game* page 12 of *Responsibility* from the Raintree series

Opening Statements: (5 minutes)

- Introduce yourself
- Ask the class, "Who knows what the Character trait is for this month?"
- Read the Character Statement for the month.
- Communicate objectives to students - explain to the class what they will be doing during the lesson / setting the tone and expectation.


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Activities: (20 minutes)

- Reiterate last part of the Responsibility Statement: Responsibility means we know that everyone makes mistakes. We acknowledge our mistakes, we try to make things right again and do not blame others for our mistakes. We try to learn from our mistakes.
- Ask the students to stand up if they have ever made a mistake. Ask a few students to share their mistakes and even share one of your own.
- Ask students to now sit down if they have ever made a mistake that they were able to fix. Ask a few students to share their mistakes and how they were able to fix them.
- Ask students to nod their heads (yes) in a big motion if they ever made a mistake and tried to blame someone else. Ask a few students how they felt when they did that. Ask students to shake their heads (no) in a big motion if they think blaming others is a responsible thing to do.
- Have students stand if they think they prefer fixing mistakes to blaming others. Then they can sit. With older students, you may continue the discussion about how to fix different kinds of mistakes like breaking things, forgetting things, not following the rules, hurting people's feelings, not keeping your promises, etc.
- Tell students they are going to do a short art project. Show them the line on the handout and tell them to pretend they made this line mistakenly. Their job as responsible students is to acknowledge the mistake, continue with the drawing and not waste paper, and see if they can turn it into a nice picture.
- Turn the paper various ways to show the many ways the students can use the paper. Distribute the handouts and crayons. Students should put their names on the papers.
- Ask if some students would like to share what they did with the class.
- If time permits, read one of the suggested books.

Wrap up and Reflection: (5-10 minutes)

Review Key Points. Have a discussion and ask learners questions about the lesson they learned.

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Character Trait Statement:

Responsibility

At EBS we practice Responsibility.

We do what we are supposed to do, on time, and without being reminded.

We follow the rules, even when no one is looking.

We take care of our things, things we borrow, and things at our school.

We think before acting.

We do our best and use our time wisely.

We are honest, keep our promises.

We acknowledge our mistakes and do not blame others.



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