We Listen to Each Other

**OBJECTIVES:**
To identify the differences between listening and not listening. To recognize the importance of good listening.

**INTRODUCTION:**
I-Care Cat tape/CD: “My Name is I-Care Cat”
“I-Care Cat says friends listen to each other. How does it feel when others listen to you? How does it feel when people don’t listen to what you say?” Discuss rule: We Listen to Each Other.

**ACTIVITY:**
Make a T-chart on listening.
Discuss: “What does good listening look like? What does good listening sound like? What does not-listening look like? What does not-listening sound like?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listening</th>
<th>Not Listening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds Like</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Display this chart in the room to help children remember the desired behavior.

**CLOSURE:**
“It is important to be a good listener so we can understand what people say and do, and be safe. Peacemakers listen without interrupting.”

**ACTIVITY BOOK: PAGES 6 AND 7**
Have students color each picture that shows good listening, complete “Yes or No?” and finish sentence starters.
Have students create stories about the illustrations on pages 6 and 7.
Discuss: “Who are the people in the picture? What are they talking about? Are they using the I-Care rule, ‘We listen to each other.’? What will happen as a result of their actions? If they don’t like the result, what can they do differently?”
CURRICULUM INFUSION ACTIVITIES:

Art:

Draw pictures that demonstrate good listening.

Social Studies, Safety:

Discuss: “When is listening to your parents or your teachers even more important than usual?” (During a fire drill, crossing the street, on a field trip, in a crowd) “When is it important to listen to the sounds around you?” (crossing streets, in crowded places) “What can happen when you don’t listen?” (Get hurt, miss directions, get frustrated) “At what age don’t we have to listen?” (We always have to listen.)

Art/Math (Geometry)

Have students work in pairs, sitting back to back. Child One draws a picture, using four geometric shapes (circle, square, rectangle, and triangle). Child One describes his/her picture to Child Two, who then tries to draw the same picture. Child Two cannot ask Child One any questions about the picture. After they are done, have students compare their pictures. Reverse the process so each child draws the other picture. Discuss what made it easy and hard to duplicate the picture.

Discuss: “What did your partner do that made it easy to match? Difficult? How important was listening? Do all words mean the same thing to everyone? Sometimes people get into fights because they didn’t listen carefully. Sometimes people fight because they didn’t understand what the other person said. It’s important to listen to each other and to ask questions if we are unsure about what the other person is telling us.”

Music/Movement

Have a child stand in either the back or the front of the room with his or her back to the class. Let the student clap a rhythm. Have the class (or a small group) repeat the rhythm. Let a number of children lead the class.

Discuss: “How does listening affect our ability to copy the rhythm? Would it help to see the person? How is talking on the phone different from talking with someone in person?”

STORIES:

Listening by Diane Stanley
Listen to Me by Barbara Neasi
Thy Friend Obediah by Brinton C. Turkle
Grouchy Lady Bug by Eric Carle
Listen! Listen! by Ann Rand

ADDITIONAL MUSIC:

Teaching Peace by Red Grammer

JOURNAL:

Write about a time someone listened to you and it made you feel special.
Write about a time that someone did not listen to you. How did it make you feel?
Color each picture that shows good listening.

Look at each other.  Talk at the same time.

Ask questions if you don’t understand.  Do something else when someone is talking to you.
TO EACH OTHER

Listen without interrupting.  Pay attention.

YES OR NO?

Can we listen if we are running around the room?  ________
Can we listen if someone interrupts?  ________
Can we listen if we are yelling?  ________

It is important to listen to each other because __________________________

When someone listens to me I feel __________________________

Peacemakers show they care when they listen to each other.