

Positive Attitude

Theme Overview

Sneaking a Peek

This month Soul Shoppe focuses on **Positive Attitude**.

How would you like to work at a school where each person (students and adults) is motivated to accomplish their goals, where everyone expects each other to succeed, and no one gives up? One of the ways of having a school environment like this is to emphasize having a Positive Attitude.

Some of the best teachers we know are constantly reminding students (even 1st-2nd graders) that someday they are going to go to college or have a successful career that makes them happy. When students get discouraged by their limitations, it's great to remind them of who they are and what they can do.

"Whether you think that you can, or that you can't, you are usually right."

- Henry Ford

This month's take-home card

Book Nook



Lower Grades (K-2):

Can Do Duck: A Story About Believing in Yourself by Ducktor Morty, MD

Harry the Incredible Bear Series by David Giddings 4th and 5th Graders:

Sticks Across the Chimney: A Story of Denmark by Nora Burglon

Little Billy by Carolyn Stonnel Baber

Upper Grades (3-6):

My Name is Maria Isabel by A. Ada

Elaine and the Flying Frog by H. Chang

Wonder Kid Meets the Evil Lunch

Snatcher by L. Duncan

The Cellar by E. Howard

How to Survive Third Grade by L. Lawlor

Novels (grades 4-8):

The Search for Delicious by Natalie Babbitt

The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Toliver's Secret by Esther Wood Brady

Role Plays to Practice Positive Attitude



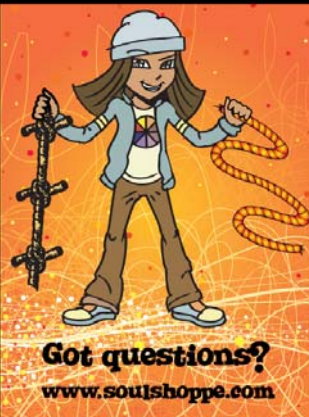
Inspired by a cooking TV show, you tell people you want to be a great chef when you get older. You've been cooking and experimenting in your kitchen and your friends and family think it is hilarious. What do you say to make them take you seriously?

Your older brother/sister is good at science, and science is really hard for you. Doing your homework, you get frustrated and upset and say "I CAN'T do science!" How can you turn this attitude around?

A good friend of yours tells you that they want to be a professional basketball player. You've seen this friend play basketball, and they are not the best player in the school. But you want to help him/her keep a positive attitude. What do you say?

Encourage me to have a Positive Attitude:

- 1** **Remind me to believe in myself.**
- 2** **Ask me to tell you 3 things I'm good at.**
- 3** **Help me work through any 'knots' that are holding me back.**



Got questions?
www.soulshoppe.com

Thank you for believing in me.

Introduction to Positive Attitude

Leader Notes: Students will discuss and share thoughts about cooperation creating a classroom definition of cooperation.

Time: 5-15 minutes

Grade Level: K-6

Getting Ready: Create a space for students to sit together to discuss positive attitude.

Set up

Ask students: If you did real well on a real difficult test that you had been worried about, and your teacher said to you, “Nice job, you had a real positive attitude,” what would your teacher mean.

Did you ever notice when someone had a bad attitude? Were they happy or mad?

Action

Discuss the following questions with students.

- o What does having a positive attitude look like at school? At home?
- o What’s the best way to show a positive attitude?
- o What is something you could say to someone who doesn’t have a positive attitude?
- o When you are not feeling very confident what is something you can say to yourself to give you a better attitude?

When is the best time to have a positive attitude?

Create and write out your classroom definition of positive attitude

Post the definition on the outside of the classroom for everyone to see.

Example: Positive Attitude is having confidence in yourself and looking on the bright side of things.

Share

In what ways can you show positive attitude in our classroom?

Positive Attitude and You

Leader Notes: Students will brainstorm and discuss the concept of positive attitude, creating 5 actions they will commit to keeping.

Time: 5-20 minutes

Grade Level: K-6

Getting Ready: Copy of one Action Plan worksheet. Using the questions listed below; choose the ones you would like your students to answer.

Note: This can also be done as a writing exercise.

Note: As a sponge activity choose one question a day for discussion or journal.

Set up

Review your definition of positive attitude.

Action

Discuss the following questions with students:

Name one person you think has a positive attitude and why?

Name one person in your family that has a positive attitude.

Name one person in this classroom that takes has a positive attitude

Tell us about a time you did not have a positive attitude

How do you show positive attitude in the classroom?

How do you show positive attitude on the schoolyard?

How do you show positive attitude at home?

How do you show positive attitude with your friends/family?

How does it feel to have a positive attitude?

How does it feel when you are not having a positive attitude?

What are reasons people do not like having a positive attitude?

What is one area you can have a more positive attitude?

Share

How can we show respect in our classroom, school, playground, home and cafeteria?

Get an agreement from everyone that they will work on having a positive attitude everyday.

Using the Action Plan worksheet, create 5 actions the class can commit to and post outside the classroom for everyone to see.

Special Note: Are there consequences if the Action Plan is not kept and are they clear to all the students?

Positive Attitude

What Positive Attitude Means to Room _____

Positive Attitude Action Plan

We in Room _____ commit to these 5 Positive Attitude actions:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____