Lesson 1

Area: Show Respect

Title: Don’t Dis’ Respect

Objective: Students will discuss being respectful and disrespectful, promote community building, and develop a class definition of respect.

Materials: Board or Overhead
“Respectful/Disrespectful” worksheet (cut questions on dotted line)

Activity: 1. Write on the board before the class comes in: “What is the difference between a disrespectful act and a respectful act?”

2. Break students up into groups. (3-4 students) Give each student a question posing disrespectful/respectful acts. Make sure each group doesn’t have repeated questions.

3. Read the following directions aloud to the class: “Each of you has been given a disrespectful or respectful act. For each disrespectful act, explain how you would have shown respect under the same circumstances. For each one you consider respectful, indicate why you think so. Each student will read their question and record the answers the other members of their group decide on. Be prepared to share the answers to the class.

4. Ask each student to read their question to the group and write down the answer given by the other members. This continues until all students have asked their question and written down an answer.

Closure: Discuss the question on the board, “What is the difference between a disrespectful and respectful act?”

Optional; this lesson could lead into writing classroom behavior guidelines for the year.
1. You are screaming as loud as you can for your team at a ball game. Two elderly people sit quietly in front of you, covering their ears every time you yell.

2. Your sister is trying to read and is having a hard time concentrating because you are playing loud music on your CD player. You can’t suggest that she go outside (it’s raining), so you just ignore her when she asks you to turn it off.

3. Someone you don’t get along with very well sees you in the hallway and calls you a name. You feel like telling him he’s an idiot, but you hold back because you know that name-calling doesn’t solve anything.

4. You’re sitting through a really boring lesson at school. To entertain the class, you stand up and make a funny face every time the teacher turns his back.
5. You are playing baseball and the umpire calls you “out” when you know you were “safe”. You tell him that you know you beat the tag, but he disagrees. You feel like talking back, but you quietly walk off the field.

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6. You see an old friend at the grocery store. She is at the other end of the store so you scream and throw a bag of chips at her to get her attention.

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7. A new girl at school always wears old, out-of-style clothes. You tease her because it makes your friends laugh.

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8. You are at the bus stop in the rain. You have an umbrella and a heavy coat so you let those without rain protection get on the bus first.

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9. You are returning to class after lunch, and your friend throws his candy wrapper and soda can on the ground. You tell him that it’s rude to expect others to clean up your mess. He says he doesn’t care so you pick it up and throw it in a nearby trashcan.

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10. You are cursing loudly in the lunchroom because your friends think it’s funny.

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