



Maggie's Civics Corner

Lesson 22 – Conflict and Compromise

Maggie Says...

Today's lesson is about bullying: Nothing makes my tail wag quite as fast as when I get to go to the park to play with my dog friends. We love to chase the squirrels! When we are together in groups, we know that we must play nice with one another. The same principle applies to humans! When you are with other people, it is important to make sure that everyone is treated kindly. If you notice someone being mean or bullying, you should say something and take action.

Sticky Situation: Imagine that you are eating lunch in the cafeteria with your friends from class. While you were talking, your classmate Alex accidentally tripped while carrying her lunch tray to the table, causing her food to be spilled onto the floor. One of the boys eating lunch with you stood from the table and pointed at Alex while laughing and screamed “You’re such a klutz! Don’t sit with us!” During this, you noticed that Alex became upset.

What would you do and why? Why is it important to let the boy at the table know that bullying is not okay? Could you say anything to Alex to make her feel better?

Activity: With your friends or family, talk about the things you could say to a bully if you saw them being mean to someone. Practice saying these things out loud. How could you let the bully know that being nice to others is always the right thing to do?

Next, talk to your friends or family about the ways you could help someone that was a victim of bullying. How could you stand up for them? What could you say to comfort them? Is there anyone that you could tell about the bullying in order to get them help, like a teacher?

Civic Resources: With your parents permission, check out this anti-bullying video by McGruff: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvhIdB_8WXE