

Maggie's Civics Corner

Lesson #31 - Making New Friends



Maggie says ...

In these difficult times, as our nation and the world pull together, it is more important than ever to understand our role as a citizen.

Today's lesson is about MAKING NEW FRIENDS. As a dog, I love making friends of both the new dogs and new kids in my neighborhood. It always makes me feel good to know that I have a new buddy.

Sticky Situation: There are a lot of new dogs that move into my neighborhood. I try making friends, but it is not always easy. Imagine that a new student has just arrived at your school and has been assigned to your classroom. She is from another part of the United States and, therefore, has a different accent than you and your friends have. As you go over to introduce yourself at lunchtime, you hear several of your really good friends making fun of her because of her accent. What would you do and why?

Activity: Maggie shared that there are always new dogs moving into her neighborhood. She often tries to make new friends with the dogs but recognizes that it is not always so easy. Picture a new student arriving at your school and being assigned to your classroom. It is the middle of the year, a very difficult time to be the new student in the room. Think of all the ways you could make a new student feel safe and welcome in your classroom.

Civics Resources: George Washington had **Rules of Civility** that he often referred to. **George Washington wrote out a copy of these 110 Rules of Civility in his schoolbook when he was about 14 years old.**

The Mt. Vernon website is dedicated to all things George Washington. Visit the website to learn about his [Rules of Civility](#) and think about how they might apply today.