BE A LEADER

LEADERSHIP ON THE PLAYGROUND

TIPS FOR CAREGIVERS

Leadership can be an intimidating and abstract concept. Finding ways to encourage small, everyday examples of leadership can help instill the traits of a good leader in young readers. It is important to know that there are many leadership traits, forms of leadership, and types of leaders. By helping young people identify all of the possibilities, you can help them find which types of leaders they want to be. Learning how to demonstrate the traits of a leader is a form of social and emotional learning (SEL).

BEFORE READING

Talk to the reader about leadership.

Discuss: What does leadership mean to you? Who are some leaders in your life? How do they lead?

AFTER READING

Talk to the reader about how he or she can practice leadership.

Discuss: How can you show leadership on the playground? What traits will you show?

SEL GOAL

Young readers may have a hard time seeing themselves as leaders. Lead a discussion and give examples for inclusion, compassion, and compromise. Use leadership vocabulary. Help readers start to identify leadership traits in themselves. Introduce specific ideas about how to apply these traits on the playground.

GOALS AND TOOLS

GROW WITH GOALS

Everyone can be a leader on the playground! Build your leadership skills while helping everyone have fun on the playground.

Goal: Invite someone to join you and your friends. Can you include someone new each day?

Goal: Think about how others are feeling on the playground. Show compassion! Comfort someone who is sad. Listen to someone who needs someone to talk to. Can you do this every day for week?

Goal: Next time you see people arguing on the playground, ask if you can help them come up with a compromise. Then help them talk about a solution that includes some of what each person wants. Can you try this once a week?

WRITING REFLECTION

At the beginning of the week, write down 3 categories in a notebook: observations, actions, and goals. Then during the week, watch for examples of people showing leadership on the playground. Write down what they did under "observations." Then think about times that you showed leadership on the playground. Write these under "actions." Finally, make a list of leadership skills you want to try for the next week under "goals."

