

Listen and Summarize & Show Respect Without Words (Elementary)

Have you ever told someone an important story, and you felt like they weren't listening to you? Maybe they weren't looking at you or kept waving to their friends while you were telling the story, and you felt hurt. Showing respect for another person starts by ***showing respect without words***. You can ***show respect without words*** by making eye contact with the other person, keeping your hands and feet still, and focusing on what they say. It is important to ***show respect without words*** so that the other person knows you are thinking about what they are saying.

You can show respect for another person by listening closely to what they are saying and summarizing what they have said. When you summarize what another person has said, you use your own words to explain the most important parts of what they said. When you summarize, you shouldn't tell the other person what to do or what you think. You should just summarize what they have told you by recalling the important parts using your own words.

I used the strategies ***show respect without words*** and ***listen and summarize*** when my brother wanted to tell me about a disagreement he had with his friend Anthony. I used the strategy ***show respect without words*** by keeping my hands and feet quiet. I also looked at my brother while he was telling the story. He and Anthony agreed to play soccer after school, but my brother forgot that his teacher had already asked him to stay after school to work on math. He didn't tell Anthony he couldn't play, and now Anthony was mad because my brother didn't show up to play soccer.

I used the strategy ***listen and summarize*** by focusing on what my brother was saying and summarizing the important parts of his story. I didn't tell him what to do or what I thought about the situation. I summarized by saying, "You forgot to tell Anthony you were going to work on math after school, and now he feels upset because you didn't meet him at the soccer field. Is that right?"

You might use the strategies ***show respect without words*** and ***listen and summarize*** in school when your teacher is explaining something or at home when a family member wants to tell you about their day. When you ***listen and summarize*** and ***show respect without words***, you will understand better what others are communicating to you.