

Listen and Summarize & Show Respect Without Words (Secondary)

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 texting their friends while you were telling the story, and you felt ignored. 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 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 have said without telling them what to do or what you think. You 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 sister wanted to tell me about a disagreement she had with her friend Maria. I used the strategy ***show respect without words*** by listening carefully to what she said and looking at her while she was telling the story. She and Maria had agreed to go to the football game together, but her friend Josie invited her to a concert. The concert sounded like more fun. When my sister explained to Maria that she would rather go to the concert than the football game, Maria became upset and refused to talk to her the rest of the day.

I used the strategy ***listen and summarize*** by focusing on what my sister was saying and summarizing the important parts of her story. I didn't tell her what to do or what I thought about the situation. I summarized by saying, "You told Maria you would rather go to the concert. She was upset about this and didn't talk to you the rest of the day. Is that right?"

You might use the strategies ***show respect without words*** and ***listen and summarize*** in school when your teacher is explaining something new or at home when a family member is describing a tough day they had. When you ***listen and summarize*** and ***show respect without words***, it helps you understand the other person.