



Sri Sathya Sai
VIDYA VAHINI
श्री सत्यसाई विद्या वाहिनी

Brief Description (Objective): The students will be able to internalize the importance of truthfulness in communication.

Teaching Aids: TRD

Concept-Value Connection:

- Direct and indirect speech are two ways to report what someone else has said. In Direct speech we repeat the message of the speaker in the exact words spoken by the person whereas in Indirect or Reported speech we report what someone has said without using their exact words.
- In our daily communication we need to be truthful and accurate when we report someone else's words. Truthfulness is the foundation of all virtues.

Activity: Role-Play

Characters: Narrator, Art Teacher, Sathya, Students

Narrator: Sathya was an excellent painter and he loved using a variety of colors in his artwork. One day the art teacher called Sathya to the staff-room during recess.

Teacher: Sathya, please inform your classmates to restrict the color palette to only three shades of colour for their painting projects.

Narrator: Sathya overlooks the instruction of the teacher in his excitement.

Sathya: (to his classmates) Friends, art ma'am has told us to complete our art projects and submit them tomorrow.

Narrator: Only after reaching home, Sathya recollects the instruction given by the teacher and promptly follows the same for his art project. But he feels guilty for not conveying the teacher's message correctly to the rest of the class. The next day, during the art period, the teacher reviews the art work of the students and is surprised to find that except for Sathya, all have used more than three colours in their art project.

Teacher: Sathya, did you convey my instructions correctly or not? I had clearly told you to tell everyone not to use more than three shades of colour in the art project. Why has it not been adhered to?

Sathya: (in a shaky voice) Ma'am it was my mistake. I forgot your instructions in my excitement. Only after reaching home, I remembered what you had said and followed the same for my art project. Ma'am, I sincerely apologize to you and to my friends for this miscommunication. I feel guilty and sad for what I have done.

Teacher: (smiles) Sathya, mistakes do happen. But what is more important is to truthfully accept them. Children please forgive Sathya for his faulty communication. It takes courage to speak the truth and I am happy that Sathya truthfully accepted his mistake. Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our Nation was an ardent follower of truth. In his childhood, he was influenced by a play on the life of Raja Harishchandra, the king who followed the path of truth in spite of facing many hardships in life.

Students: (chorus) Ma'am, can you please tell us a story from Gandhiji's life?

Teacher: Once when Gandhiji was in high school, an education inspector visited his class. He conducted a spelling test for the students. Gandhiji misspelled one of the words, 'kettle', as he did not know its correct spelling. Though he was secretly prompted by his friends and teacher, he was not ready to correct the spelling. Except for him, the entire class got all the spellings correct but Gandhiji felt happy at heart for having followed the path of truth.

Sathya: Thank you so much for this inspiring story ma'am.

Teacher: Children, being truthful with yourself and with others is important in any aspect of life. It is not enough if you just learn the techniques of art, but equally important is to learn the art of truthfulness. Remember '**Truth is the foundation of all virtues**'.

Take-home Messages:

When we communicate truthfully, we:

- **become trust-worthy**
- **gain respect**
- **build meaningful friendships**

Source: Self