We Love the Company: A Story about Table Manners

Making connections to discuss in the classroom and at home

Written by: Angela Russ-Ayon Illustrated by: Irina Mirskaya

AbridgeClub.com





Welcome new classmates. Introduce yourself. Show them around. It's fun to meet new friends.

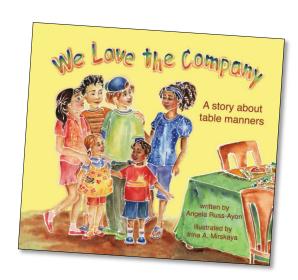
- And you can wash up before we begin...
 Wash up after messy or dirty activities to prevent skin irritation, the transfer of materials, or the spread of germs.
- Let's go to the table and all take a seat.
 There is one seat for each person, and only so many chairs available for different activities.
- We unfold our napkins...
 Use appropriate clothing and tools for messy activities: aprons, trays, mats, gloves, goggles, helmets, etc.
- We don't reach over people to get what we need...

Politely ask for items to be passed to you.

• Using utensils will often depend on the culture...

We come from different families, backgrounds, and cultures. Not everyone will do things the way you do.

- We don't complain or make a face...
 Try something new. You might like it.
 If not, there is no reason to complain when you can move on to something else.
- We sit straight in our chairs...
 There is a proper way to sit in a chair and at the table.



- We use our napkins whenever we can...
 Respect and take care of the supplies and toys
 you have. They have a purpose, and once they
 are broken, no one can use them.
- No using a napkin we dropped on the floor...
 Please do not use utensils that have been
 dropped on the floor or eat food from off of
 the floor.
- No slushing or slurping...
 Please do not play with your food or drink.
- No feeding the pets or dumping in pots...
 Let's not be wasteful. There are others who are less fortunate.
- No one wants to see pieces and bits...
 Be careful around others. It's okay to play, but if you throw objects, someone could get hurt.
- (We) always remember to thank our host.
 Be courteous and kind, using polite words like please and thank you.
- We offer to clean up...
 Clean up the messes you make.
 Offer to help others.
- We make music together, playing a song...
 Take turns on musical instruments. There is enough for everyone to do: play, sing, and dance.
- All of our friends are here...
 Let's take photos, draw, and journal, to remember what we did.