

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

Advisor's Guide to personal growth and leadership development

Lesson Number: **RNH.5.6**

Respectful Behavior

Purpose:

The purpose of this lesson is to provide guidelines for acceptable social behavior in different settings and environments.

Quick Reference:

Time Required:

50 minutes

Objectives:

After completing this lesson, students should be able to:

1. Discuss and define social behavior and accepted standards.
2. Behave in socially accepted ways in different settings.

Materials:

- ✓ RNH.5.6.AS.A – one per facilitator

Directions:

This lesson is a very practical lesson that deals with topics that students should take to heart and are basic moral and ethical behaviors they should exhibit.

1. Explain to students that most of the time we're not thinking about our social behavior. It comes as naturally to us as breathing. However, we need to be aware of our behavior and train ourselves to be proper, courteous, and aware of how our behavior affects others.
 - a. Explain that some behavior might be acceptable in one situation and unacceptable in another. For example, when greeting friends it might be perfectly acceptable to use slang language or informal handshakes. This same behavior is inappropriate when greeting adults.
2. Review the following topics in as much detail as you feel is appropriate: (In each of the following topics give examples for students to discuss and explain why they should or should not behave).
 - a. Conversational courtesies (saying "please," "thank you," "may I," "I'm sorry," "excuse me," etc.)
 - b. Respect the property of others (borrowing a piece of equipment, etc.)
 - c. Proper introductions (interviews, trips, meetings, social gatherings, etc.)
 - d. Telephone and e-mail courtesies (appropriate language and uses)
 - e. Social media etiquette (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)





- f. Proper language and topics discussed in groups or individual conversations (language, jokes, topics, sexual and nonsexual topics, sexual harassment)
 - g. Another area to discuss is that of relationships between young men and young women and what types of behavior are acceptable in different situations and environments. For example, in most places any public display of affection beyond holding hands is considered inappropriate. Let your students know their limits and the type of behavior you expect.
 - h. You may also want to discuss the challenges that can arise when members of an officer team date one another. You may even decide it is appropriate to put into place a “nonfraternization” policy that discourages officers from dating each other until after their terms of service are finished.
3. As a way of summarizing the lesson, display RNH.5.6.AS.A and cover the FFA Code of Ethics. This code was adopted by the delegates at the 1952 National FFA Convention and revised by delegates at the 1995 National FFA Convention.

Connection Questions:

- 1. Describe a time when you felt very uncomfortable when someone was not being respectful or was rude in their behavior.
- 2. Think about the FFA Code of Ethics that was adopted in 1952 and decide if you were to write a Code of Ethics today, what would you add or delete from the list?
- 3. Why do we have common limits and expectations on our behaviors in public and private? What are the benefits of following a code of ethics?



LifeKnowledge Connections:

Precept(s) Addressed:

Character

D4. Respect others.

Social Growth

H2. Present self appropriately in various settings.

H3. Develop, maintain, and grow healthy relationships.

Decision Making

N3. Make ethical decisions.

LK Lesson Suggestion:



MS.10 – Showing Respect

MS.35 – Using Appropriate Language and Humor



The FFA Code of Ethics

FFA members conduct themselves at all times to be a credit to their organization, chapter, school, community and family. As an FFA member, I pledge to:

1. Develop my potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.
2. Make a positive difference in the lives of others.
3. Dress neatly and appropriately for the occasion.
4. Respect the rights of others and their property.
5. Be courteous, honest and fair with others.
6. Communicate in an appropriate, purposeful and positive manner.
7. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being modest in winning and generous in defeat.
8. Make myself aware of FFA programs and activities and be an active participant.
9. Conduct and value a supervised agricultural experience program.
10. Strive to establish and enhance my skills through agricultural education in order to enter a successful career.
11. Appreciate and promote diversity in our organization.