

Theme: Manners

The Learning Triangle is TV that teaches + storybooks + activities—all related to one idea or skill. Parents and educators use the Learning Triangle to help children learn by encouraging them to interact with people and objects around them. Use the information below to create a Learning Triangle about manners.

TV that teaches

Arthur: #218—The Very Mean Crossing Guard
Barney and Friends: #703—Tea-Riffic Manners
Between the Lions: #108—The Boy Who Cried Wolf
Caillou: #111—Best Behavior
Clifford: #112—Little Clifford (be kind)/Welcome to Birdwell Island (have respect)

Storybooks

Clifford's Manners by Norman Bridwell
Excuse Me! A Little Book of Manners by Karen Katz
Manners by Aiki
The Berenstain Bears Forget Their Manners by Stan & Jan Berenstain
Manners Can Be Fun by Munro Leaf



Activities:

1. **Telephone:** Using phone manners requires practice. Talk to your child about what to do when answering a call. Talk about when it is okay to answer the telephone and when it is not. Use a play phone to practice answering the phone or calling a friend. Once you've practiced enough, let your child make a real phone call.
2. **Take my order, please:** Pretending to be in a restaurant is a fun way to practice good manners. Set the table with plates, glasses, silverware, and napkins. Use a little notebook to take the guests' orders. Pretend you are the customer and your child the waiter or waitress. A good way to teach good manners is to use bad ones. Pretend to be a grouchy customer, and then your child will have the opportunity to correct you.
3. **Please pass me..:** After practicing how to order, serve a snack and practice good table manners. Go over the correct way to ask somebody for something at the table. Practice chewing with your mouth closed and also using napkins. Don't forget the magic words: please and thank you.
4. **Achoo!** Children tend to forget to cover their mouths when sneezing or coughing. Now is the perfect time to take out a box of Kleenex and talk about when to use them. Remind your child to throw away used tissues and wash his or her hands afterwards.
5. **Thank you note:** Ask your child to think of somebody who has done something nice for him recently. Write a thank-you note together. Ask him what to say while writing it. Or encourage your child to thank the person by drawing something.

WILL has many resources that support the education of young children. For more information contact our educational outreach coordinator at **217-333-1070** or e-mail **delaney1@will.uiuc.edu**.

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