

sWords

ACTIVITY #3

Catch the Feathers



SFK.ORG

Catch the Feathers

(The damage of gossip and rumors)

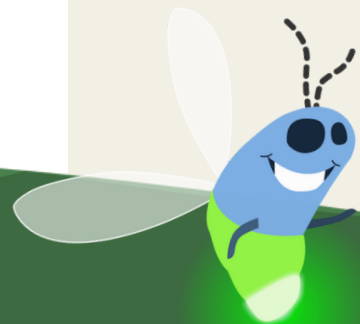
Like Joy and Sir Instagram in the video, it is easy to turn to gossip and spread rumors when feeling insecure. In this activity, your children can experience how hard it is to track and take back the words we spread and understand the damage that gossip and rumors can cause.

Activity Objectives:

- 1 To understand the impact and damage of gossip and rumors.
- 2 To understand that words cannot be taken back after they are said.

Materials:

- Feathers
- A small fan or piece of cardboard!





Catch the Feathers



Definitions:

Gossip: Talking about other people's private life when they are not present.

Rumor: A story spread among a number of people which is unconfirmed or may be false.

Instructions:

This activity can be played either indoors or outdoors.

1. Brainstorm with the children some gossip starter sentences. Example: "Did you hear that . . .?" or "I'm not supposed to tell you but . . ." Ask them to also think about possible gossip examples to complete the sentence. If necessary, go over the definition of gossip and give an example.



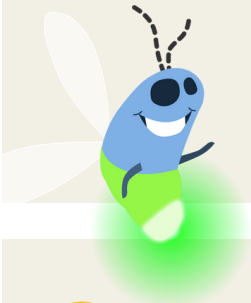


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2. Give each child a handful of feathers. Explain to the children that the feathers represent the different gossip you came up with together.
3. Ask your children to begin spreading the gossip by throwing the feathers up in the air. Tell them that it is their job to blow the feathers into different directions with the fan or by waving the cardboard sheets to blow the air.
4. While the feathers are spreading in different directions, ask the children to begin taking their words back by collecting all the feathers. Give them one minute to do so while you continue spreading the feathers.

Tip: Your children should not be able to collect all the feathers, so don't make it easy. Remember that this game is a metaphor for not being able to take our hurtful words (or gossip words) back.





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5. When one minute is up, ask your children the following questions to clarify the concept:
 - Were you able to collect all the feathers? (No)
 - Why not? (Because they were spreading all over very fast)
 - How did it make you feel?
6. Use your imagination: What do you think could happen if Joy continued saying something bad about Zoe?
7. Wrap up the activity by reminding your children of the destruction of the forest and how fast that happened from the time Sir Instagram spread the rumor about the fire-breathing dragons. There is no telling whose ears they will reach when we spread rumors. We never know where our gossip will travel to, who will be hearing them, and what action will be taken based on it.

