

Pre Assessment

1. List all the communication styles that you know.
2. Why is communication important?
3. Why do you think it's important to have good communication in relation to life skills?
4. What is the difference between verbal and nonverbal communication?

6th grade

6.ICR.1.2 – 1.2 Implement verbal and non-verbal communication skills that are effective for a variety of purposes and audiences

Communication Activity

Follow these directions. You can not ask a question during this activity.

1. Draw a circle in the middle of the paper.
2. Draw a star in the corner.
3. Draw a moon at the top of the paper.
4. Draw a rectangle in the bottom left corner.
5. Draw an oval on the right.
6. Draw stripes on the oval.
7. Draw a line dividing your paper in half.

Questions

- What was fun?
- Frustrating?
- What ineffective verbal and nonverbal messages did the teacher demonstrate?
- What communication skills would have made this activity more helpful to follow?

Video Clip

Watch the clip the first time with the sound muted.

- What emotions do you see in the characters?
- What is the situation?
- What is conveyed by their body language?
- Is it easy to misinterpret events or situations??

Video Clip

Now watch the video clip with the sound.

- How close were your guesses on the emotions?

[Video Clip](#)

Discussion

- What does it mean to communicate?
- What are some ways we communicate verbally?
- What are some ways we communicate nonverbally?
- What happens when verbal does not match nonverbal communication? (mixed messages)

Communication

- Most communication actually occurs nonverbally.
- It is often nonverbal communication that leads to the greatest misunderstanding.
- It is not what we say, but how we say it.

Non Verbal Communication

- Non-verbal communication is expressed through posture, gestures, eye contact, and facial expression (what is called “body language”).

[Video Clip](#)

Verbal Communication

- Verbal messages (the actual words and tones) are more obvious than nonverbal, though even our words can sometimes be misunderstood.
- [Clip of communication](#)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mh47wWr_Hbw

Mixed Messages

- Often one gives a mixed message: when words and the nonverbal do not match.
- This is particularly confusing to others and the listener does not know which to believe.
- Messages in which your voice, tone, and body language are consistent will help all situations when you are around other people.

Discuss:

- Have you ever experienced a situation where you said something and the other person completely misunderstood what you meant because your verbal and nonverbal messages were not consistent?
- What happened as a result of the misunderstanding?
- How do you feel when someone misunderstands you?

Communication: Purpose and Audience

The way a person speaks may change depending on who is receiving the message and the purpose of the communication. List what should be part of each of these messages.

General “Rules” of effective communication include:

Look at the person.

Use a pleasant tone of voice.

Listen carefully.

Purpose of Communication	Who Is Receiving the Message?	How Would You Communicate?
Apology	Parent	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Look at the person.2. Use a serious tone without pouting.3. Say, "I would like to say I am sorry . . ."4. Don't make excuses.
Giving a Compliment	Classmate	
Asking a Favor	Sister or Brother	
Showing Appreciation	Teacher	
Borrowing Something	Friend	
Disagreeing with Someone	Teammate	
Greeting Someone	Principal	

What Are You Saying?

Observe verbal and non-verbal communication during extracurricular activities, at home or in the community setting.



Two examples of verbal communication you observed:

Two examples of non-verbal communication you observed:

Did the verbal and non-verbal communication seem to match? Explain.

List one example of “mixed messages” and your suggestion for improvement.

How does this activity help you recognize the importance of effective verbal and nonverbal communication?

Closure:

- Today we learned about importance of communicating effectively through the use of verbal and nonverbal skills. This should help reduce the misunderstandings caused when we are not careful in our choice of words or aware of body language.

Post Assessment

1. List all the communication styles that you know.
2. Why is communication important?
3. Why do you think it's important to have good communication in relation to life skills?
4. What is the difference between verbal and nonverbal communication?