

Skill 23: Making Others Feel Comfortable

INSTRUCTOR PAGES

Rationale: You may encounter situations in which people are misunderstood, under pressure, caught in embarrassing situations, or simply in trouble. Going out of your way to try to make the individual feel comfortable (without being overbearing or nosey) is one way to be a “good neighbor.”

Worksheet 111: The Play

Students are to read the story about a play and an embarrassing situation. They should be prepared to discuss the questions at the bottom of the worksheet.

Answer Key (answers may vary):

1. Embarrassed
2. Laughed with her (not at her), offered to lend her clothes, gave moral support for talking with the teacher
3. Ask the teacher to let her call her mother; ask around for extra clothes

Worksheet 112: Embarrassing Moments for Others

Students are to discuss or draw a picture to show how suggested techniques might help someone out of an embarrassing situation.

Answer Key (answers may vary):

1. give help;
2. use humor;
3. give help;
4. be sympathetic;
5. use humor;
6. stick up for him or her

Worksheet 113: Helping Others Through Stressful or Uncomfortable Situations

Students are to read and discuss the situations to come up with ideas for how to help someone out.

Answer Key (answers may vary):

1. use humor;
2. talk to the coach privately;
3. stick up for your friend;
4. give support—you can do it!;
5. talk to the teacher;
6. pick Jon

Worksheet 114: Ordinary Times to Be Outgoing

Sometimes simple conversation can make a situation more pleasant. Students are to role-play the situations on the worksheet, emphasizing how a few words can make someone feel more comfortable.

Answer Key (answers may vary):

1. “Have you seen the view from the top?”
2. “Welcome! Need a tour?”
3. “Your son is really a star! What a great player!”
4. “Excuse me, you left something here!”
5. “What a cute dog! He’ll catch on!”

6. "Hi. Welcome back!"
7. "Congratulations! Good job!"
8. "Need a hand?"

Worksheet 115: Things to Beware Of!

You have to be careful not to be too helpful, too talkative, or overbearing. Students are to discuss the situations on the worksheet and tell why the talkative person is not being helpful.

Answer Key (answers may vary):

1. Potentially embarrassing situation for the boy—he doesn't want to talk about why he's in the office.
2. It's nice to help someone out, but don't advertise it!
3. The boy just wants to figure it out by himself.
4. Maybe the girl doesn't feel bad about being pregnant.
5. Not his business.
6. Maybe the girl isn't rich; it's not polite to ask the price of shoes.

Worksheet 112

Embarrassing Moments for Others

How could you use these techniques to help others feel comfortable during an embarrassing moment? Draw a picture or explain your ideas.

Use humor
Give help

Stick up for him or her
Be sympathetic

1. Abdul was walking down the steps at school when he tripped, dropped his books, and fell flat on his back in front of everyone!
2. A strange boy comes up to you, puts his arm around you, and says, "Hi, Sweetie. What's up? What? Oh, you're not Jenny! I thought you were Jenny!!"
3. A girl in your class has a huge rip in the back of her pants that she doesn't notice . . . yet.
4. Your math teacher is reading the class's grades out loud. Donald, a boy you don't know very well, got an F. It is the lowest grade in the class. You notice Donald shrinking down in his seat.
5. Your friend is supposed to introduce you to a good-looking friend, but suddenly forgets your name.
6. The basketball coach says to your friend, "Aren't you the kid who threw the ball in the wrong basket at the game last night?"



Name _____

Date _____

Worksheet 113

Helping Others Through Stressful or Uncomfortable Situations

How could you smooth out these situations in which someone is stressed out or feels uncomfortable?

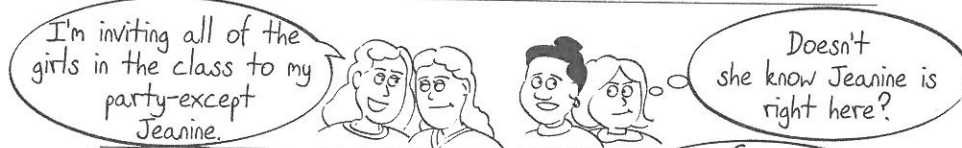
1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

