

# Words MATTER!

**Let's understand  
the effects of what we say  
and how we say them!**



Each of us wants to be respected. Read the examples below.

Do you think the people in Joey's class are being respected? Why or why not?  
What do you think Joey could do differently to make sure he's being respectful?

1. Nick walks into the classroom. Joey laughs and yells out loudly "Nick is fat!"
2. Olivia returns from recess. She's sweating and it's burning her eyes. Joey approaches Olivia, offers her a tissue and says, "Here you go, this should help."
3. Joey smells an unpleasant odor in his classroom. He turns to Steve, who sits behind him, and tells him that he stinks.
4. The teacher asks if anyone can answer the math question on the board. Joey raises his hand, answers the question correctly, and then calls the rest of the class stupid.
5. Joey is chosen to be first in line for lunch. He gets up from his desk, walks to the door, and stands straight while the teacher directs the other students. Joey smiles and says hello to Michael and Randy as they get into line behind him.
6. The class is on a field trip. Joey has already sat down on the bus. When Carol and Tia sit on the seat in front of him, he leans over and says, "This must be the ugly row!"
7. While outside playing before school, Joey tells Diego he's going to hurt him.
8. Joey raises his hand to answer a question. The teacher doesn't choose Joey, she chooses Latisha. Joey put his hand down, looked kindly at Latisha, and said, "Good job."
9. Tina places her books on Joey's desk for a moment while she wipes off her desk. Joey pushes the books off of his desk onto the floor and tells Tina that he hates her.
10. Joey calls Gavin a naughty word.