

# GRADE 6

## CHARACTERISTICS OF RELATIONSHIPS

In this lesson, the teacher and students will work collaboratively to set guidelines for learning about and discussing sensitive subjects. In a partner activity, students will list different types of relationships and identify the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships. During the lesson, the teacher will engage students in a discussion about the types of communication and their impact on relationships.

## TODAY'S OBJECTIVES

- Define relationship.
- Describe the types of relationships in your life.
- Describe the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships.
- Demonstrate communication skills for healthy relationships.

## TEACHER NOTES: CREATING A SAFE SPACE

- Estimated Time: 5 minutes
  - Activate Prior Knowledge/Engage
1. Begin lesson by establishing ground rules conducive towards a “safer” space.
  2. Due to the sensitive nature of these topics, remind students to avoid speaking about experiences of their fellow classmates.
  3. Let students suggest rules or limits of their own for the class to be mindful of throughout the discussion.

## CREATING A SAFE SPACE

What are some ground rules we can agree upon to make this a safe space to talk about a sensitive topic?

## TEACHER NOTES: WORD SPLASH & DEFINITION

- Estimated Time: 2 minutes
  - ELL & SpEd Strategy: Mixed-Ability Partners
1. Ask students to look at the word splash and consider what today's topic might be about.
  2. Ask students to write their answers and reveal them on whiteboards.

WHAT COULD TODAY'S TOPIC BE ABOUT?

partner

sister

boyfriend

friend

brother

girlfriend

daughter

[WWW.MERRIAM-WEBSTER.COM](http://WWW.MERRIAM-WEBSTER.COM)

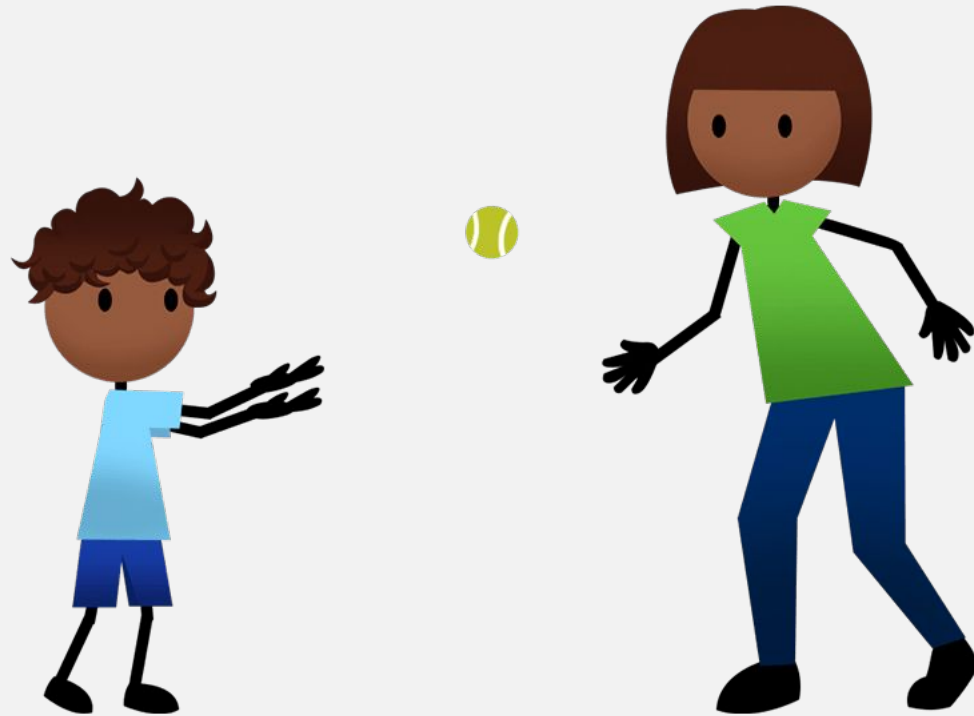
: the way in which two or more people, groups, countries, etc., talk to, behave toward, and deal with each other

## TEACHER NOTES: BALL TOSS & FRIENDSHIP CHARACTERISTICS

- Estimated Time: 5 minutes
  - ELL & SpEd Strategy: Visual Prompt
- 
1. Students stand in a circle at arm's length apart.
  2. Students toss a ball or small object across the circle from one to another, to establish a pattern. Repeat the pattern for 2-3 rounds.
  3. Next, have students try calling out the name of the person to whom they are tossing the ball.
  4. Next, have students call out characteristics they look for in a friend.
  5. Now repeat the pattern calling out that characteristic before tossing the ball.
  6. Try reversing the pattern or adding in extra balls.



WHAT CHARACTERISTICS DO YOU LOOK  
FOR IN A FRIEND?



## WHICH CHARACTERISTICS MAKE A GOOD FRIEND OR DATING PARTNER?

- Is unselfish
- Treats others well
- Is tolerant and respectful
- Has morals and values similar to yours
- Is fun to be with
- Respects themselves

YOU SHOULD ALWAYS TRY TO  
BE THE KIND OF PERSON THAT  
YOU AND OTHERS RESPECT.



## TEACHER NOTES: HEALTHY VS. UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIP CARD SORT

- Estimated Time: 5 minutes
  - ELL & SpEd Strategy: Mixed-Ability Partners
1. Ask students to sort cards into 2 categories.
  2. Students create a T-Chart to record their answers.

Participates in activities that you like but might not be their favorite.	Gets to know you.	Respects your wishes & independence.	Observes the rules of your parent/guardian.
On-time, respectful, and courteous.	Respects your decisions & limits.	Asks about your thoughts, feelings, & opinions.	Talks you into things you shouldn't do.
Insists on being the one to decide what to do.	Focuses on whether you are good-looking or popular.	Thinks they know everything (arrogant).	Goes against your parent or guardian's rules.
Jealous of others.	Puts hands on you inappropriately/or makes you feel uncomfortable.	Talks behind your back.	Takes horseplay too far.

# HEALTHY VS. UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

## Healthy Relationship Characteristics

Respects your wishes & independence.

## Unhealthy Relationship Characteristics

Manipulative or arrogant

## TEACHER NOTES: GOOD COMMUNICATION DISCUSSION

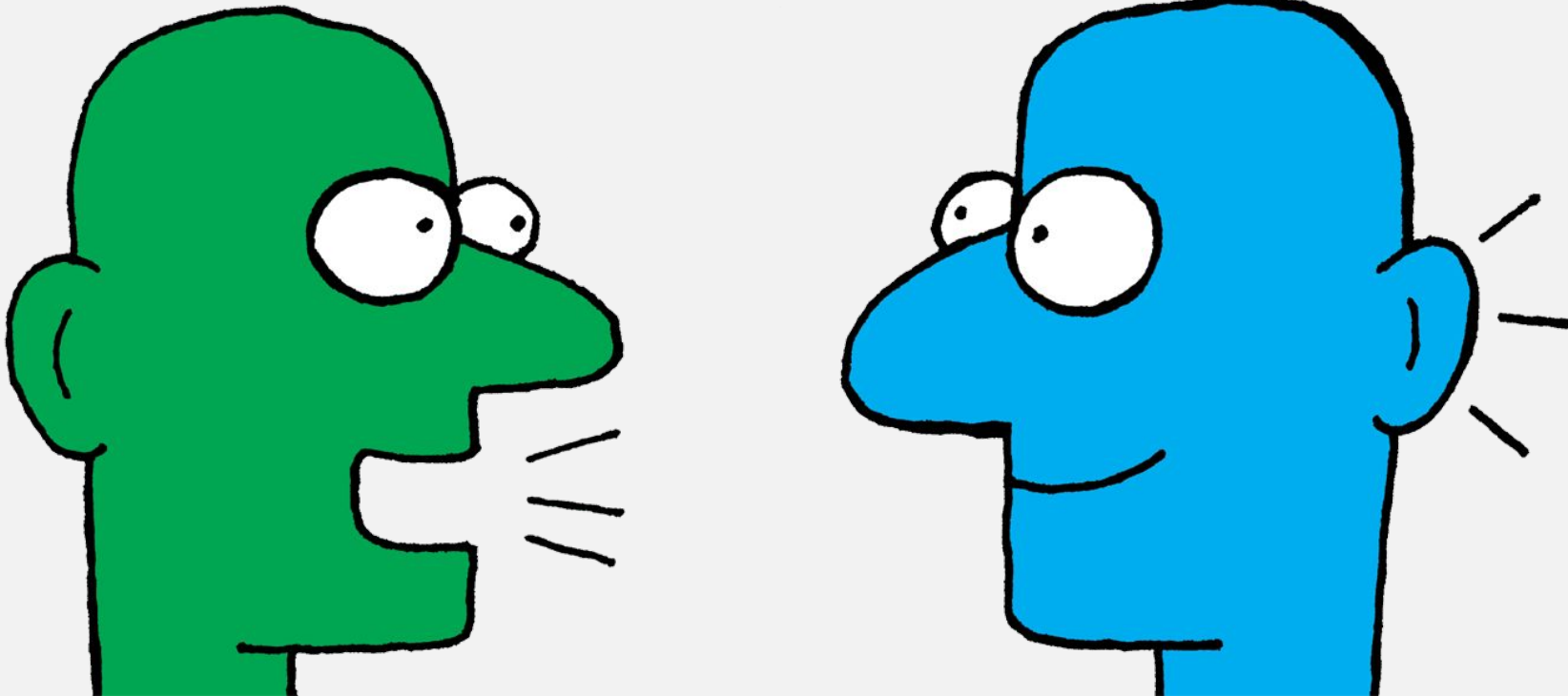
- Estimated Time: 5 minutes
  - ELL & SpEd Strategy: Mixed-Ability Partners, Visual Cues
- I. Teacher facilitates a class discussion about the importance of communication in fostering healthy relationships.

## THINK – PAIR – SHARE

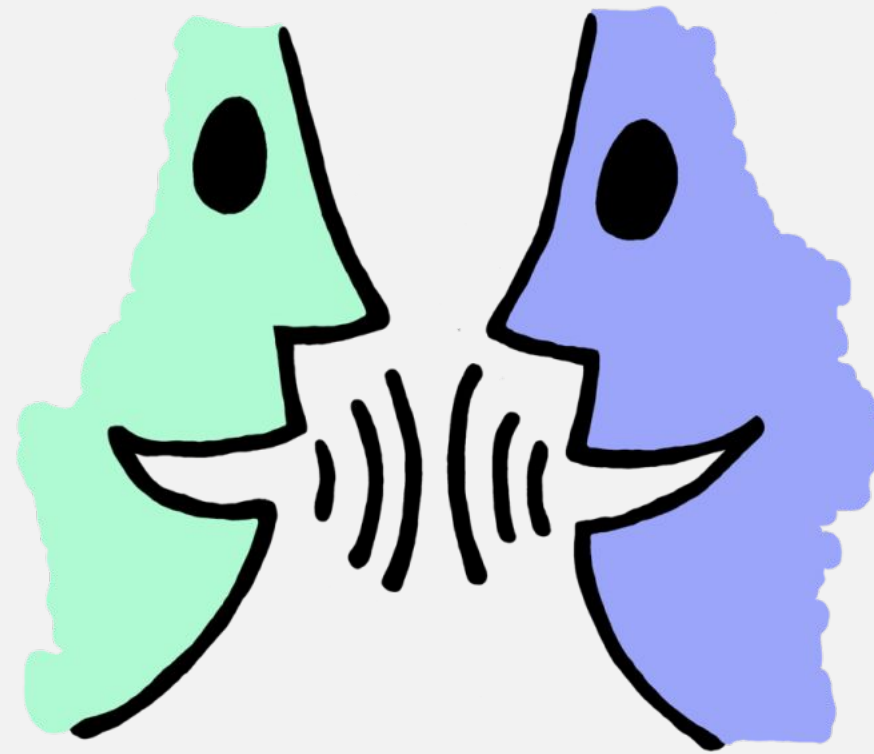
Describe a situation where poor communication resulted in an argument or disagreement.



WHAT IS COMMUNICATION?



GOOD COMUNICATION IS NEEDED FOR EVERY  
RELATIONSHIP!



GOOD COMMUNICATION WILL HELP  
*IMPROVE* YOUR RELATIONSHIPS  
WITH YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, TEACHERS  
AND OTHER ADULTS.

Good communication skills  
include listening and speaking  
effectively.



## THINK – PAIR – SHARE

### WHY IS GOOD COMMUNICATION IMPORTANT?

- **Preventing Misunderstandings** Unclear communication can cause hurtful misunderstandings.
- **Building Healthy Relationships** Communication is a tool for building good relationships.
- **Expressing Yourself** Good communication skills allow you to let others know what you want and need.

## TEACHER NOTES: ASSERTIVE RESPONSES

- Estimated Time: 10 minutes
  - ELL & SpEd Strategy: Mixed-Ability Partners
- I. Students complete different ways to respond to varying situations in relationships using the three communication styles.

ON A POST IT NOTE, WRITE AN EXAMPLE THEN  
PLACE IT ON THE ANCHOR CHART.

**Good Communication**

What does it sound like when  
you are at your best?

**Bad Communication**

What does it sound like when  
you are at your worst?

# TYPES OF COMMUNICATION

Passive, Aggressive, Assertive



# WRITE – PAIR – SHARE

## Types of Communication Scenarios

There are three types of communication styles.

**Directions:** Use the descriptors of each type of communication style to write a response for each scenario.

	Passive Communicator	Aggressive Communicator	Assertive Communicator
	Does not offer opposition when challenged or pressured	Aggressive, hostile, & unfriendly	Communicates with a direct and respectful way
Someone cuts in front of you in line.			
Your best friend tells someone else one of your secrets.			

# TEACHER NOTES: RESTORATIVE CIRCLE

- Estimated Time: 5 minutes
- SEL Strategy
  1. Teacher circles up students
  2. Teacher explains that the students' job is to role play one of the three types of communication in relation to the new scenario.
  3. The student chooses the type of communication and then role plays the response to the scenario.
  4. Teacher asks class to agree or disagree (a talking piece may help if students want to add to the conversation).
  5. Continue asking students to role play the same scenario but with a different type of communication.
  6. Try to elicit all 3 types of communication for each scenario.

## RESTORATIVE CIRCLE: NEW SCENARIO

1. Someone cuts in front of you in line.
2. Your best friend tells someone else one of your secrets.
3. Someone messes with your stuff.
4. Someone posts a mean comment about you on Instagram.
5. Your best friend demands to look at your texts.

## BEING A GOOD LISTENER IS AS IMPORTANT AS BEING A GOOD SPEAKER!

How can you show or tell someone you are listening?

**Active Listening** means letting the speaker know you are listening and clarifying anything confusing.

**Paraphrasing** means using your own words to restate what someone else says.

WHAT KIND OF COMMUNICATION WOULD  
YOU USE TO LEAVE AN UNHEALTHY  
RELATIONSHIP?

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

- “Circle Drawing Tools Online at GetDrawings.com.” *Circle Drawing Tools Online at GetDrawings.com*, GetDrawings.com, <http://getdrawings.com/circle-drawing-tool-online#circle-drawing-tool-online-57.png>. (Accessed September 11, 2019)
- Doncarlos1953. “Nonverbal Communication Conversation Facial Expression PNG Clipart.” *Nonverbal Communication Conversation Facial Expression PNG Clipart*, IMGBIN.org, 4 June 2017, <https://imgbin.com/png/UgYHt8Vu/nonverbal-communication-conversation-facial-expression-png>. (Accessed September 11, 2019)
- “Relationship.” *Merriam-Webster*, Merriam-Webster, 9 Sept. 2019, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/relationship#examples>. (Accessed September 11, 2019)
- “Tennis Ball Kids Clipart- Graphics.” *Tennis Ball Kids Clipart- Graphics*, SGC I San Francisco.org, <https://sgcisanfrancisco.org/image/tennis-ball-clipart-kids/1598018.html#>. (Accessed September 11, 2019)
- “Two People Talking.” *Communication Clipart Free Images - People Talking Clipart Png*, JING.FM, <https://www.jing.fm/iclipt/u2q8q8r5i1a9a9y3/>. (Accessed September 11, 2019)

## Types of Communication Scenarios

*There are three types of communication styles.*

**Directions:** Use the descriptors of each type of communication style to write a response for each scenario.

	<b>Passive Communicator</b>	<b>Aggressive Communicator</b>	<b>Assertive Communicator</b>
	<i>Does not offer opposition when challenged or pressured</i>	<i>Aggressive, hostile, &amp; unfriendly</i>	<i>Communicates with a direct and respectful way</i>
Someone cuts in front of you in line.			
Your best friend tells someone else one of your secrets.			