

I'm Responsible!

by Tori Rice

First Grade
History Social Science
Academic Standard
1.1.2 Understand the
elements of fair play and
good sportsmanship,
respect for the rights and
opinions of others, and
respect for rules by
which we live, including
the meaning of the
“Golden Rule.”

Students explore their responsibilities and improvise a story with a partner.

Materials paper and pencil

Vocabulary Improvise - making it up on the spot

Step one Invite a household member to join you in this activity. You can each make your own **I'm Responsible!** List. Think about all of the things you are responsible for **at home, at school** and **in the community**. Be sure to include your actions, behaviors and following rules. See sample below.

I'm Responsible!

At home	At school	In the community
Pick up my toys	Listen to the teacher	Wear a helmet when I ride my bike
Feed the pets	Take turns	Recycle
Help my parents	Follow playground rules	Pick up trash
Brush my teeth twice a day	Put my work away neatly	Carry in my neighbor's groceries

Step two Take turns sharing one item from each of your lists and talk about the consequences of not being responsible.

For example: Following playground rules are important. If I don't follow the rules, like taking turns on the slide, someone could get hurt.

Step three Working with your partner, improvise a super silly story about a character being irresponsible. Your character can be an animal, human or object. Tell the story one sentence at a time, taking turns. The first sentence is a prompt. Fill in the blanks for the first sentence and then improvise the rest, one sentence at a time! Keep going until your story comes to a close.

First sentence _____, the _____, wasn't very responsible.
(character name) (character description)

Example Billy _____, the 11-year-old gorilla _____, wasn't very responsible.

Billy's mom gave him money to pick up bananas for dinner.

On the way to get the bananas, he saw an amusement park.

He went on lots of rides.

He forgot to get the bananas.

He brought home cotton candy instead.

Everyone got sick from the sugar and his mom was very disappointed.

Billy made sure to pick up the bananas the next day!