



Grade 4: Consent

Overview

This lesson discusses consent. Students are encouraged to identify their boundaries, understand bodily autonomy, and discover ways to ask for consent in various situations.

Timing

45 minutes

Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- Describe how to respect others' boundaries.
- Define bodily autonomy.
- Practice asking for consent.
- Understand why consent is important.

Standards

[Washington Health Standards](#)

H7.Sa1.4, H1.Sa3.4a, H2.Sa3.4, H4.Se5.4, H1.Se6.4, H4.Se6.4, H2.Se6.4b

Materials Needed

- Computer/projector/speakers to display PowerPoint, including video streaming
- PowerPoint: 4th Grade Consent Lesson
- Handout: 4th Grade Consent Scenarios
- Homework: 4th Grade Consent Homework

Teacher Preparation

- Print one copy per student of pages 1 – 2 of Handout: 4th Grade Consent Scenarios
- Print one copy for yourself of pages 3 – 4 of Handout: 4th Grade Consent Scenarios
- Print one copy per student of Homework: 4th Grade Consent Homework
- Review the homework

Agenda

Introduction - 5 minutes

Slides 1 – 2

Introduce the topic and explain that this lesson will include discussion, a video, and a writing activity that students will complete in small groups. Review the questions this lesson will answer.

Teacher’s note: There may be several survivors of assault in the classroom. Be sensitive to the fact that while discussing consent, some students may be activated. Make sure to identify resources including ways students can get support at school.

Discussion - 15 minutes

Slides 3 – 15

Define boundaries and encourage students to think of examples. Watch the “Consent for Kids” video and reinforce ideas in the video. Students learn about bodily autonomy, learn how to ask for consent, and how to recognize if consent has been given.

Activity - 20 minutes

Slides 16 – 18

Pass out Handout: Grade 4 Consent Scenarios. Divide students into groups and ask them to follow its instructions. Facilitate a discussion.

Closing - 5 minutes

Slides 19 – 22

Discuss ways a student can access support at school. Invite students to identify a trusted adult. Pass out Homework: 4th Grade Consent Homework and invite students to complete it with their caregivers.

Vocabulary

Key words in this lesson:

- Consent – Agreeing to do something.
- Bodily autonomy – You are in charge of your own body.
- Boundaries – Limits you set for yourself.
- Trusted adult – An adult you can talk to about anything.

Handouts and Homework – on following pages



Grade 4 Handout for Consent Lesson: Consent Scenarios

Instructions: Please pick one of the three scenarios and answer the questions below. Read the example and discuss in your group how you think the characters should handle the situation. Pick one person to be the writer and have that person write your answers in the space below.

1. Olivia asks Jason if she could borrow his skateboard to skate to the park. This skateboard is important to Jason and he feels uncomfortable lending it to Olivia. Olivia tells Jason he should lend it because they're friends, and she would do the same for him. Jason says he's not sure.

Did Olivia ask for consent? How do you know?

Did Jason give consent? How do you know?

Did Olivia respect Jason's answer? How do you know?

What could Olivia have done differently?

2. Bailey and her parents went to visit her aunt out of town. When they arrive at her aunt's house, Bailey's parents tell her to give her aunt a kiss. Bailey asks if she could give her aunt a hug instead, but her parents tell her it would be rude not to give her aunt a kiss. Bailey's aunt says she's fine with giving Bailey a hug instead and asks Bailey if she would like to hug. Bailey looks relieved and smiles. Bailey's aunt opens her arms and Bailey gives her a hug.

Did Bailey's aunt ask for consent? How do you know?

Did Bailey give consent? How do you know?

Did Bailey's aunt respect Bailey's answer? How do you know?

What could Bailey's parents have done differently?

3. Mateo uses a wheelchair to get around. Jeremy thinks it would be nice to grab Mateo's wheelchair handles to help push him. Jeremy starts pushing Mateo in his wheelchair, but Mateo said he didn't ask to be pushed. Jeremy said he didn't mind being helpful and continues to push Mateo.

Did Jeremy ask for consent? How do you know?

Did Mateo give consent? How do you know?

Did Jeremy respect Mateo's answer? How do you know?

What could Jeremy have done differently?

Teacher Instructions for Grade 4 Handout: Consent Scenarios

Objective:

Students will understand when consent has been given in various situations.

Materials Needed:

- Copies of “4th Grade Consent Scenarios,” one copy per group
- Students will each need a writing utensil.

Teacher Instructions:

Step 1: Divide students into groups of three. Have each group assign a writer to record their responses to each of the questions (or have them switch off so each student writes a response to one of the questions). Allow the groups about **10-15 minutes** to work on the worksheets.

Step 2: Facilitate a discussion about student responses; this part of the activity should take around **10 minutes** but allow for more time if needed. Reinforce or provide responses below. Clarify any misunderstandings of consent; perhaps a student believed Jason should have allowed Olivia to borrow his skateboard, make sure to explain how consent should be freely given and not pressured.

Sample Script:

“You all are going to take a few minutes to fill out the worksheet with your groups. Once everyone has finished, we’re going to have a larger class discussion about your responses to the scenarios.”

Key for Instructor

1. Olivia asks Jason if she could borrow his skateboard to skate to the park. This skateboard is really important to Jason and he tells Olivia he’s uncomfortable lending it to her. Olivia tells Jason he should lend the skateboard because they are friends, and she would do the same for him. Jason says he’s not sure.

Did Olivia ask for consent? How do you know?

Olivia asked for consent, but she did not respect the answer. Instead of respecting that response, Olivia tried to pressure Jason to lend the skateboard.

Did Jason give consent? How do you know?

No, Jason did not give his consent. Jason let Olivia know he was uncomfortable lending his skateboard.

Did Olivia respect Jason’s answer? How do you know?

No, Olivia did not respect Jason’s answer. You can tell because Jason says he’s not sure.

What could Olivia have done differently?

After Jason said he was uncomfortable, Olivia should have respected that boundary. Instead of trying to persuade Jason, Olivia could have said, “Okay! I’ll ask another friend. Thanks anyway!”

2. Bailey and her parents went to visit her aunt out of town. When they arrive at her aunt’s house, Bailey’s parents tell her to give her aunt a kiss. Bailey asks if she could give her aunt a hug instead, but her parents tell her it would be rude

not to give her aunt a kiss. Bailey's aunt says she's fine with giving Bailey a hug instead and asks Bailey if she would like to hug. Bailey looks relieved and smiles. Bailey's aunt opens her arms and Bailey gives her a hug.

Did Bailey's aunt ask for consent? How do you know?

Yes, Bailey's aunt asked Bailey if she would like to hug. Bailey's aunt respected Bailey's boundaries and gave her a hug instead of a kiss.

Did Bailey give consent? How do you know?

Bailey gave consent and willingly hugged her aunt. You can tell because she looked relieved and smiled.

Did Bailey's aunt respect Bailey's answer? How do you know?

Bailey's aunt listened to what Bailey was comfortable with, and didn't violate a boundary. You can tell because Bailey's aunt used body language to gesture to Bailey to give her a hug, and Bailey accepted.

What could Bailey's parents have done differently?

Bailey's parents did not respect what Bailey said she was comfortable with. After Bailey said she would prefer to hug her aunt instead of kiss her, Bailey's parents should have respected that boundary.

3. Mateo uses a wheelchair to get around. Jeremy thinks it would be nice to grab Mateo's wheelchair handles to help push him. Jeremy starts pushing Mateo in his wheelchair, but Mateo said he didn't ask to be pushed. Jeremy said he didn't mind being helpful and continues to push Mateo.

Did Jeremy ask for consent? How do you know?

No, Jeremy did not ask for consent. Jeremy just started pushing Mateo without asking.

Did Mateo give consent? How do you know?

No, Mateo did not give consent. Jeremy started pushing Mateo's wheelchair without asking.

Did Jeremy respect Mateo's answer? How do you know?

No, Jeremy did not respect Mateo's answer. You can tell because after Mateo said he didn't ask for help, Jeremy continued to push him.

What could Jeremy have done differently?

Jeremy could have asked Mateo if he needed help. After Mateo said he didn't ask for help, Jeremy could have apologized for assuming and not asking for.



Grade 4 Homework: Consent

Note to Parents/Guardians/Caregivers

Today your child/student learned about consent. They learned that consent means agreeing to do something. They also learned consent must be given freely, and it cannot be forced. Students discussed the importance of consent in friendships, relationships, and in everyday life! Your child's teacher showed this video [Consent for Kids](#). Students discussed the scenarios below. Your student may have only answered the questions for one of them.

Homework Instructions

Students and parents/guardians/caregivers, talk together about these scenarios that were discussed in school. Share your thoughts and feelings, including what it's like to discuss consent at school and at home. Answer the questions for at least one scenario.

1. Olivia asks Jason if she could borrow his skateboard to skate to the park. This skateboard is really important to Jason and he feels uncomfortable lending it to Olivia. Olivia tells Jason he should lend the skateboard because they are friends, and she would do the same for him. Jason says he's not sure.

Did Olivia ask for consent? How do you know?

Did Jason give consent? How do you know?

Did Olivia respect Jason's answer? How do you know?

What could Olivia have done differently?

2. Bailey and her parents went to visit her aunt out of town. When they arrive at her aunt's house, Bailey's parents tell her to give her aunt a kiss. Bailey asks if she could give her aunt a hug instead, but her parents tell her it would be rude not to give her aunt a kiss. Bailey's aunt says she's fine with giving Bailey a hug instead and asks Bailey if she would like to hug. Bailey looks relieved and smiles. Bailey's aunt opens her arms and Bailey gives her a hug.

Did Bailey's aunt ask for consent? How do you know?

Did Bailey give consent? How do you know?

Did Bailey's aunt respect Bailey's answer? How do you know?

What could Bailey's parents have done differently?

3. Mateo uses a wheelchair to get around. Jeremy thinks it would be nice to grab Mateo's wheelchair handles to help push him. Jeremy starts pushing Mateo in his wheelchair, but Mateo said he didn't ask to be pushed. Jeremy said he didn't mind being helpful and continues to push Mateo.

Did Jeremy ask for consent? How do you know?

Did Mateo give consent? How do you know?

Did Jeremy respect Mateo's answer? How do you know?

What could Jeremy have done differently?