

DILIGENCE AND PERSEVERANCE

Teaching children about diligence and perseverance gives them tools they need to learn the new material that they are exposed to on a daily basis. Children, as well as adults, will find themselves in situations where things are tough and they feel like giving up. Children must be taught that through diligence and perseverance, people can overcome difficulties and succeed.

Questions for Discussion

How might you show diligence and perseverance at school? At home? In your community?

How does your attitude affect your success?

Why do some people give up and stop trying? Have you ever done that?

Do you think your friends could prevent you from accomplishing something that you wanted to work hard for?

How do negative comments from others affect your abilities or motivation to try hard?

Being diligent means continuing to work on something even if you lose interest in it or it becomes frustrating. It means not giving up.

To persevere is to stick with an activity or work hard to complete a task. It means never giving up—even against all odds.

SCENARIO

Your friends are riding bikes without training wheels, but you still need training wheels to help you keep your balance. Your uncle offers to help you learn how to ride a bike without training wheels. You try, but it is difficult and you keep falling off. Do you give up? How can you persevere in this activity?

- ◆ “Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.” (Abigail Adams)
- ◆ “What we hope ever to do with ease, we must learn first to do with diligence.” (Samuel Johnson)
- ◆ What saves a man is to take a step. Then another step.” (Antoine de Saint-Exupéry)