

# Cooperation (Grades K-2)

## For PurposeFull Families



### EXPLANATION:

This month we are talking about Cooperation! Cooperation is about making sure we know how to be on a team or work in a group towards a common goal. Here is the definition we are using:

**Cooperation: Working together and helping others.**

We want young people to know how to work hard on their own. But, just as important, we want them to know what it looks like to be a part of a really supportive, helpful, empowering team. We will be thinking about the skills needed to work together well and how each of us contributes to a group in big and small ways. We will think about our strengths and our areas of growth. We will take part in fun challenges to put our teamwork to the test and grow, together, toward the common goal of a more helpful, kind, cooperative world!

### CONVERSATION STARTERS:

- Sometimes you just feel like doing things all by yourself. What is something that someone can do to help you to get into the spirit of Cooperation?
- When we are working with others, it can be tough when a teammate is not cooperating. How do you deal with that frustration? What can you say to the teammate to tell them how you feel?
- Talk about a time when you worked on a really effective team. What were the ingredients? What did you contribute? How did they help you?

### QUESTIONS YOU COULD ASK:

- What are some activities where it's easy for you to practice Cooperation? Which activities make it difficult? Why do you think that is?
- Do you like working together with other people? Can you name some things you do at home that require Cooperation or teamwork?
- Who is someone you love to work with? What makes it easy to Cooperate with them?

### APPLICATION:

#### Books:

- [\*That Fruit Is Mine!\*](#) by Anuska Allepuz
- [\*Red & Yellow's Noisy Night \(The Olive Branch\)\*](#) by Josh Selig
- [\*Frankie\*](#) by Mary Sullivan
- [\*Swimmy\*](#) by Leo Lionni
- [\*Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns About Sportsmanship\*](#) by Howard Binkow
- [\*Nugget and Darling\*](#) by Barbara Joosse
- [\*Yoga Friends\*](#) by Mariam Gates
- [\*The Little Red Hen \(Makes A Pizza\)\*](#) by Philemon Sturges

### FOR YOUR READING:

- [\*Teaching Children to Cooperate\*](#) from the PennState Extension
- [\*5 Simple Yet Powerful Ways To Get Kids To Cooperate\*](#) by Erin Leyba

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### PURPOSEFULL PURSUITS:

#### Popcorn Storytelling

In this challenge, you will work together to craft a story about an unforgettable neighbor named Junior. Starting with, "I'll never forget Junior," everyone takes turns adding details to bring Junior's fictional story to life. Pop in when you've got a detail you want to add. It'll be fun to see where this delicious tale takes you.

If you want, write it down as you go! Leave room for illustrations. Who knows? You just may want to get this one published!

**Toughness:** 2

**Time:** 2

**Type:** Group

#### Creating Your Family Crest

Does your family have a Family Crest? A Family Crest is a coat of arms typically drawn on a shield, unique to your family, to honor your family name. In this challenge, you will work together to research to find out if your family already has a crest. If not, here's your chance to create your Family Crest. What symbols, words, colors, logo will you use to represent your family, to tell the world who you are and what you stand for?

Using whatever supplies you want, work together to make one. When it's done, take a picture and send it to other family to see if they want to contribute!

**Toughness:** 3

**Time:** 3

**Type:** Group

#### Cooperation Cook-off

Invite another family to join you in a Cooperation Cook-off! You and your child will partner up and compete against another duo or trio to see who can make the better \_\_\_\_\_. At the end, have a tasting for your families (or for the neighborhood!) and the prize is a delicious meal for all!

**Toughness:** 1

**Time:** 2

**Type:** Partner

#### Board Game Night

Search through your cupboards for some board games your family has not played in awhile. Pop some popcorn and have fun playing together! Look for moments of Cooperation that you can point out to your kids. For example:

- Choosing which game to play
- Choosing who gets to go first
- Handling wins and losses
- Working together to solve a problem

Better yet, play a game that is normally played solo with a partner and see how you can navigate working together toward a common cause!

**Toughness:** 2

**Time:** 2

**Type:** Group