

Skit 8: Respect

Narrator: It is the first day of school and Ram and Krishna are going to their first class. They walk in, and notice that there is new teacher, Mr. Subramanian. The brothers go into the class and see the other children throwing things at their teacher. The teacher tries to calm the other students down but none of them listen.

Krishna: *(to Rama)* What are all of our friends doing? Why are they being mean to the teacher instead of helping him?

Rama: I don't know. Maybe we should try and stop them.

(Krishna and Rama try to stop a few students from throwing paper airplanes at the teacher and running around the room frantically.)

Student 1: *(Laughs at Krishna and Rama)* What are you both doing? Why are you being such chickens?

Student 2: Come on. Join in the fun. You won't get in trouble, because the teacher is too scared. Come on. *(Hands Rama and Krishna paper and books to throw)*

Narrator: Not wanting to be picked on themselves, Krishna and Rama join their friends in throwing things at the teacher and running around. (In the meanwhile, Krishna and Rama start throwing paper and other things at the teacher, while running around.)

(Scene changes to Krishna and Rama's House)

Krishna: Amma Amma, today we had a new teacher for math. His name is Mr. Subramanian.

Mother: Did you boys help your new teacher get settled and let him know that you will help him with anything?

Rama: *(Hesitantly, while looking down)* Well, see we actually...

Mother: What is the matter? What happened at school?

Rama: *(In an excited tone)* The other kids were throwing things at him, and being mean. We tried to stop them, but they wouldn't listen.

Krishna: So then we joined them. They made us do it. We really didn't want to amma.

(Krishna and Rama's father walk into the kitchen.)

Father: What's the matter? Why do you all look so tense?

Mother: Well, Krishna and Rama were just telling me about their first day of school.

Father: Oh that's right. Did you boys have a good day?

Rama and Krishna: Yes father, we had a good first day. We have a new teacher in math.

Mother: Why don't you boys tell your father what happened at school.

Krishna: The other kids were being mean to the teacher and we joined them.

Father: I think the boys need to learn about respect. *(The boys and their father sit down on the sofa)* Boys, in our culture we show respect to those who are older than us.

Rama: Father, what exactly does respect mean?

Father: Respect means being kind to someone. It means admiring, showing regard, and consideration for other people. For example, you both show respect to your grandparents by greeting them properly.

Krishna: Oh, I understand now father. So, we shouldn't be mean to our teacher.

Rama: Instead, we should teach the other kids to be respectful and help our teacher.

Father: You shouldn't be afraid of showing respect to others. You should always do what you feel is right, without regard to what other people say.

Mother: So, what will you boys do tomorrow when you go to school?

Rama and Krishna: We will respect our teacher, and try to make the other kids do the same.

(scene change – next day. Back at school)

Narrator: The boys return to school the next day, and find the classroom in the same situation as it was the day before.

Rama: Krishna, lets try to implement what our parents taught us and be respectful.

Krishna: Yes, Rama. Lets go.

(Krishna and Rama walk into the classroom and go to their friend, Gaurav)

Rama: Gaurav, why don't you stop throwing things at Mr. Subramanian.

Gaurav: Why should I?

Krishna: Don't you remember your first day of school here? People were making fun of you and not respecting your feelings. How did you feel then?

Gaurav: *(Utterly ashamed of his behavior)* You're right. I should respect the teacher's feelings, since I know how it feels to be made fun of.

Narrator: Rama and Krishna, along with the help of Gaurav stop their other classmates from disrespecting their teacher. (Show the boys stopping the other classmates) The teacher thanks the two boys for their kindness and respect.

Mr. Subramanian: Rama, Krishna, thank you so much for stopping all the other kids from misbehaving and helping them learn how to be respectful.

(Teacher stands with students and smiles.)