

MAGICAL MANNERS PICTURE PUZZLES

Scratch paper
Color pencils or felt-tip markers
Tagboard or construction paper
Optional: “Good Manners” video from *Nasco*

Concept: Manners are like magic—they tend to make a lot of good things happen with very little effort.

Introduce this activity by asking the students what manners are and help them define the term. Manners were probably mentioned in the previous activity as one of the acceptable behaviors; if not, you may want to include manners in the discussion so there will be a natural link to this activity.

MANNERS: BEING POLITE, SHOWING RESPECT, BEING COURTEOUS, AND TREATING OTHERS AS YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE TREATED

The teacher can use the analogy that manners are like magic—they tend to make a lot of good things happen with very little effort.

Brainstorm a list of about fifteen examples of basic manners on the board and discuss each of them briefly. Divide the class into pairs and have each pair choose a manner from the list on the board and keep it a secret. Have each pair of students plan a rough draft of a picture puzzle that depicts their good manner when sounded out. You may include the sample picture puzzle on an overhead transparency for the students to see as an idea (the sample says do not push and shove in line.) When the rough drafts are completed, give the students a piece of construction paper, tagboard, or card stock, and colored pencils or felt-tipped pens to make their picture puzzle.

After the students complete the picture puzzles, have the class figure out the manners depicted by each one. As the students identify the manners, you can help the students understand the magic that occurs when they practice the manners. You should be prepared to include any basic manners that the students do not depict but need to be discussed. You could hang the students’ puzzles around the room as a means of reinforcement for a few days. (NOTE: if you prefer, each student can make a picture puzzle or, divide students into larger groups to complete this activity.)

The teacher should plan to take some class time for the students to role play some basic manners like making introductions, opening doors, saying thank you graciously, giving and receiving compliments, etc.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: You may prefer to use the video “Good Manners” available from NASCO as a source of information for the students. (Nasco, PO Box 901, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538, 1-800-558-9595, Catalog No. WA 1376217)