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Feel free to contact me with any ideas of other adventurers I should go on.

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Introduction

If this is the first time you are introducing our fictional character Rusty the Greyhound to your class, please <u>download our FREE behavior story</u>: Rusty Introduces Himself to the Class. This behavior story will introduce your class to Rusty, the Greyhound and his best friend Polar, the cat. It would help if you did this before you start teaching the lesson.

Rusty, the Greyhound, needed extra help with things that are difficult for him. With behavior videos, behavior stories, games, and activities, he learns to overcome his difficulties. Your students can learn with Rusty by watching some of the struggles that Rusty went through and apply those struggles to their own experiences.

Rewards: An essential part of all our lessons are the "I was caught" dog bone rewards, which students will receive throughout the week. The students can give them to each other, or any adult can give one to them. For more details, see the reward section.

Rusty's Introduction Story

Please read to the students: We will start a lesson about (insert name of that lesson). In the lesson, you will learn about a character named Rusty the Greyhound. Mr. Tom, Rusty's caregiver, has written stories about Rusty, his choices, the fun activities he did, and how now Rusty makes better choices. Mr. Tom has lots of stories and activities about Rusty that we can do together. The stories are called "The Adventures of Rusty the Greyhound." Making good choices isn't always easy but if Rusty can do it so can We!

The story:

It was Rusty's first day of school. His teacher wanted everyone to say their name and introduce themselves to the class.

"I don't want to. I'm too scared!" Rusty thought. Rusty was ready to cry.

His teacher told him to try and calm down. She said, "Count to ten and take a deep breath." Rusty did that and he started to feel better.

He was calmer and started talking. He said, "Hi, I'm Rusty the Greyhound. I just started going to school here. I went to another school before this one. I didn't always make the best choices there but with the help of Mr. Tom and my best friend Polar, I learned how to make better choices." Rusty's teacher said, "Thank you, Rusty, that was very good! Why weren't you scared anymore?" Rusty said, "Because I remembered in my old school, I was taught ways, like how to calm down. Thank you for reminding me to take a deep breath and count to ten. And I got to watch videos, play games and do fun stuff like that. I make better choices now," said Rusty.

Rusty was happy. He got to talk in front of the whole class and wasn't scared.

Then Rusty said, "But there are still times I need help doing better. Mr. Tom wrote stories about things that help me. Your teacher can read them to you and we can learn to make better choices together. My stories are called "The Adventures of Rusty the Greyhound." If I learned to make better choices, so can you!"

Review lesson

Questions - What did Rusty's teacher want him to do? (Tell his name)

How did Rusty feel about telling his class what his name was? (Scared)

What did Rusty's teacher tell him to do so he wouldn't be scared anymore?

Answer: He Counted to ten and took a deep breath.

Let's all do that together. Let's count to ten (count slowly) now let's take a deep breath. Remember, don't hold your breath. Taking a deep breath means you make your tummy move in and out while you breathe. We might have to practice that one to get it right. Let's try it again. See, we already learned to do something like Rusty did. We are ready to be GOOD CHOICE KIDS!

Note to teacher: Calming strategies introduced in the story can be used throughout the day/year when students or a student needs help.

Daily Rewards

Rewards are an essential part of any ABA-based behavior program. Rewards help to reinforce the behavior trying to be achieved. Think of a reward as a paycheck adults receive for doing their work. Students don't get paid with money so they need another type of paycheck.

For the lessons this week, we will use "I Got Caught Sitting at Circle" dog bones to reward students who sit at circle. Your students can feed their bones to Rusty.

Print and laminate the picture of Rusty. Cut an opening for his mouth and then staple it to a bag. When the students receive a dog bone from someone, they can feed it to Rusty. There can be one bag with Rusty's face on it for the class, or each student can have their own bag.

Anyone can award a student for completing the daily activity after circle is over. This could be a student or another teacher. If a student wants to reward someone, they need to tell an adult why they think that person deserves the reward. This reinforces their understanding of the concept. The adult will write that information on the back of the bone and the receiving student's name. The bone can be put into the bag as a surprise or given to the student.

As part of the Friday lesson plan, the students can take their bones home and show their caregivers. Most important - Don't forget to write the student's name on the reward.

Class Completion Certificate

After completing every weekly concept, there is a class completion certificate. Rusty's certificates are something a little different from the usual piece of paper. Rusty's certificate for each weekly group of lessons completed is a "Dog Bone" printed with the concept's name.

Suggestions for displaying the Dog Bone to remind the students of their work include but are not limited to:

- making a paper chain as lessons are completed
- making a Rusty dog bowl to put the bones in and around
- hanging a picture of Rusty with the bones around him
- making or using a dog bone box as a bulletin board displaying bones coming out of the box as lessons are completed.

It's a fun challenge throughout the year to see how long the chain can get or how many bones Rusty has. Seeing the reward is a constant reminder of their efforts.

Teacher Prep and Note

Monday: Load the video, set up the dog bone reward space.

Tuesday: Print and laminate (if possible) the story.

Wednesday: Print the worksheets for the students. Have enough different crayons for each

student to get 2 different colors. Optional: Cut out the worksheets to use as manipulatives.

Thursday:

Friday: Sort all of the dog bones and print and cut the class reward certificate.

Optional: Have Two different stuffed toys, ie. Dog/cat or Print the picture of Rusty and Polar.

Note: All questions or comments indicated in lessons are things that can be discussed with your students

MONDAY

Teacher Prep: Load the video, cut out and set up the dog bone rewards.

Objective: Students will describe how to sit at circle after watching a video.

Procedure/Activities:

This is where the video will be and any questions or comments about the video will be located.

Assessment: The students will answer questions about being better listeners.

TUESDAY

Teacher Prep: Print and Laminate (if possible) the story.

Objective: Students will demonstrate how to follow directions at circle.

Procedure/Activities:

Short review of video. Read the stories and talk about what Rusty did in the story and how that effects your students.

Review the polls from before and after the story and see if the results changed. Were the students correct before the story? If not why not?

Assessment:

Call on children to show what Rusty did. Encourage them to demonstrate what Rusty did using the stuffed toys when they answer. They can sound like Rusty talking, meow like Polar etc.

WEDNESDAY

Teacher Prep: Print the worksheets for the students. Have enough different crayons for each

student to get 2 different colors.

Objective: Students demonstrate they can listen and follow directions.

Procedure/Activities:
Reread/review story

Today will be an activity which will help students to practice the skills that they have learned in the videos and the story.

Assessment -

Thursday

Teacher Prep: Have a timer ready.

Objective: Students demonstrate they can listen and follow directions.

Procedure/Activities:

Every Thursday will have a different activity which will be explained in detail here.

Assessment: Can the students listen and follow directions

FRIDAY

Teacher Prep: Friday: Sort all of the dog bones and print and cut the class reward certificate.

Objective: Students will retell what they learned.

Procedure/Activities:

Reread story if needed.

Students can show their worksheets

Counting of the dog bone rewards.

Give student's dog bones they earned.

Assessment - Question - what did we learn about how to sit at circle this week?

Extra copy of the story



Worksheets, Posters, Rewards

