



## Do the Right Thing

### Introduction

#### Objective:

In this lesson, students will recognize how characters from *The Jungle Book* display personal accountability and responsible behavior. After exploring the concept of personal accountability, students will recognize how they are accountable in their own lives.

#### Academic Content Standards:

- ✦ National Standards
  - Civic Ideals and Practices  
Social studies programs should include experiences that provide for the study of the ideals, principles and practices of citizenship in a democratic republic.
  
- ✦ Ohio Standard - Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities
  - Students use knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in order to examine and evaluate civic ideals and to participate in community life and the American democratic system.  
Benchmark:  
Demonstrate personal accountability, including making choices and taking responsibility for personal actions.  
Indicator:  
Demonstrate accountability for actions.

### Getting Started

#### Materials:

- Handout A and B

#### Vocabulary:

- Personal accountability
- Responsibility

### Lesson

#### Orientation Activity:

Raksha, the mother wolf, brought the issue of allowing Mowgli, the man cub, in the wolf tribe to the Animal Council. She knew that she needed two other members of the Animal Council to support her wish in order for Mowgli to stay. Ask students to think about:

- Who spoke up and backed Mowgli's place in the tribe?
- Why was that a risky thing to do?
- Baloo, the brown bear, and Bagheera, the black panther, spoke out and took personal accountability for Mowgli's welfare.
- What did being personally accountable for Mowgli's welfare mean to Baloo and Bagheera?
- What would this make their responsibility?

Accountability is defined in Webster's Online Dictionary as, "An obligation or willingness to accept responsibility or to account for one's actions." Further discuss the concept of accountability and responsibility in this scene, using examples of other scenes if needed.

### Learning Activity:

On Handout A, the three boxes on the left-hand side describe scenes in the play where characters found themselves to be personally accountable. On the corresponding boxes to the right, students should draw a picture of the character's responsibilities as a result. For example, in one scene Raksha took personal accountability when she was trying to persuade the council to allow Mowgli into her tribe. Students might draw a picture of Raksha explaining her side to the council or getting ready to fight for her beliefs. Why did Raksha take on such a big responsibility?

After students have completed their drawings, ask for volunteers to share their pictures and explain them to the class. A cause and effect relationship should be clear between being accountable and being responsible. Part of being accountable is that you do the right thing. Who wasn't personally accountable for his/her behavior in the play and why? (Shere Khan).

## **Evaluation and Follow-Up**

### Assessment Tools and Methods:

On Handout B, students should pick three moments in their own lives where they have been personally accountable for something. On the boxes on the left, they should write a sentence explaining their situation. On the boxes on the right, they should draw a picture of the responsibilities that go along with being accountable.

### **Interdisciplinary Connections**

Social Studies - Use examples of community leaders to further explore their roles with respect to accountability and responsibility. For example, what is a police officer accountable for and what are his/her responsibilities?

Reading - Read and discuss stories about people or animals that did or did not remain accountable for their responsibilities.



## Handout A

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: The three boxes on the left-hand side describe scenes in the play when characters found themselves to be personally accountable. On the corresponding boxes to the right, draw a picture of the character's responsibilities

<b>Accountable</b>	<b>Responsible Behaviors</b>
<p>Kaa, the rock snake, was very strong and she could have easily hurt Mowgli with one squeeze. Instead Kaa, befriended Mowgli and came to his aide when he needed help.</p>	
<p>Bagheera and Mother Wolf tell Mowgli that the only way he can beat Shere Khan is by using the power of fire.</p>	
<p>Shere Khan comes looking for Mowgli in an attempt to kill him.</p>	



## Handout B

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Choose three instances in your own life where you have been personally accountable for something. On the boxes on the left, write a sentence explaining your situation. On the boxes on the right, draw a picture of the responsibilities that go along with being accountable.

<b>Your Personal Accountability</b>	<b>Your Responsibilities</b>