Let's teach nice

**FIND**

Find the word in the vocabulary. NICE is an adjective, so it will typically be located on the “DESCRIBE” page of many vocabularies. If you can't find NICE, use the Word Finder feature to learn where it is. If it is not in the vocabulary, you may want to add it.

**INTRODUCE**

Use NICE in context and try to explain it at the learner’s level. Modeling, touching the word in the vocabulary as you say it, may help. Here’s an example: “NICE means you are good or friendly. When you share your toys, you are being NICE. People like you when you are NICE to them.”

**MODEL**

Model the word throughout the day, touching NICE in the vocabulary anytime you say it.

- “Be NICE and share.”
- “That was so NICE of you!”
- “What a NICE surprise!”
- “I hope you had a NICE time.”
- “NICE to meet you.”

**ENCOURAGE**

Create activities to provide lots of models and practice with NICE.

- Song: Three NICE Mice (variation of 3 Blind MICE)
- Activity: Take turns being the “NICE monster” and do one NICE thing for someone else. Need help thinking of ideas? Make “Be NICE cards to pick from” (e.g., pick up toys).

**EXPECT**

Create opportunities for the learner to say the word. Make sure to wait and look at them so they know it is expected.

- Have the learner review the class rules, one is “(be) NICE.”
- Write a book with the learner about how to be NICE. Use the sentence starter “It is NICE to/when...” or “NICE means...”

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Being NICE is something we want for all people, but what does it really mean? Help the learner start to understand the word NICE by putting it into action. Start by calling an awareness to it whenever you use it. Then, think about when the learner may benefit from using it. Maybe he/she wants to tell his/her siblings to “be/play NICE,” or maybe he/she wants to tell someone else they did a “NICE job,” or perhaps it would be good to introduce it in the context of something he/she already does, such as greet others, “NICE to meet you.”