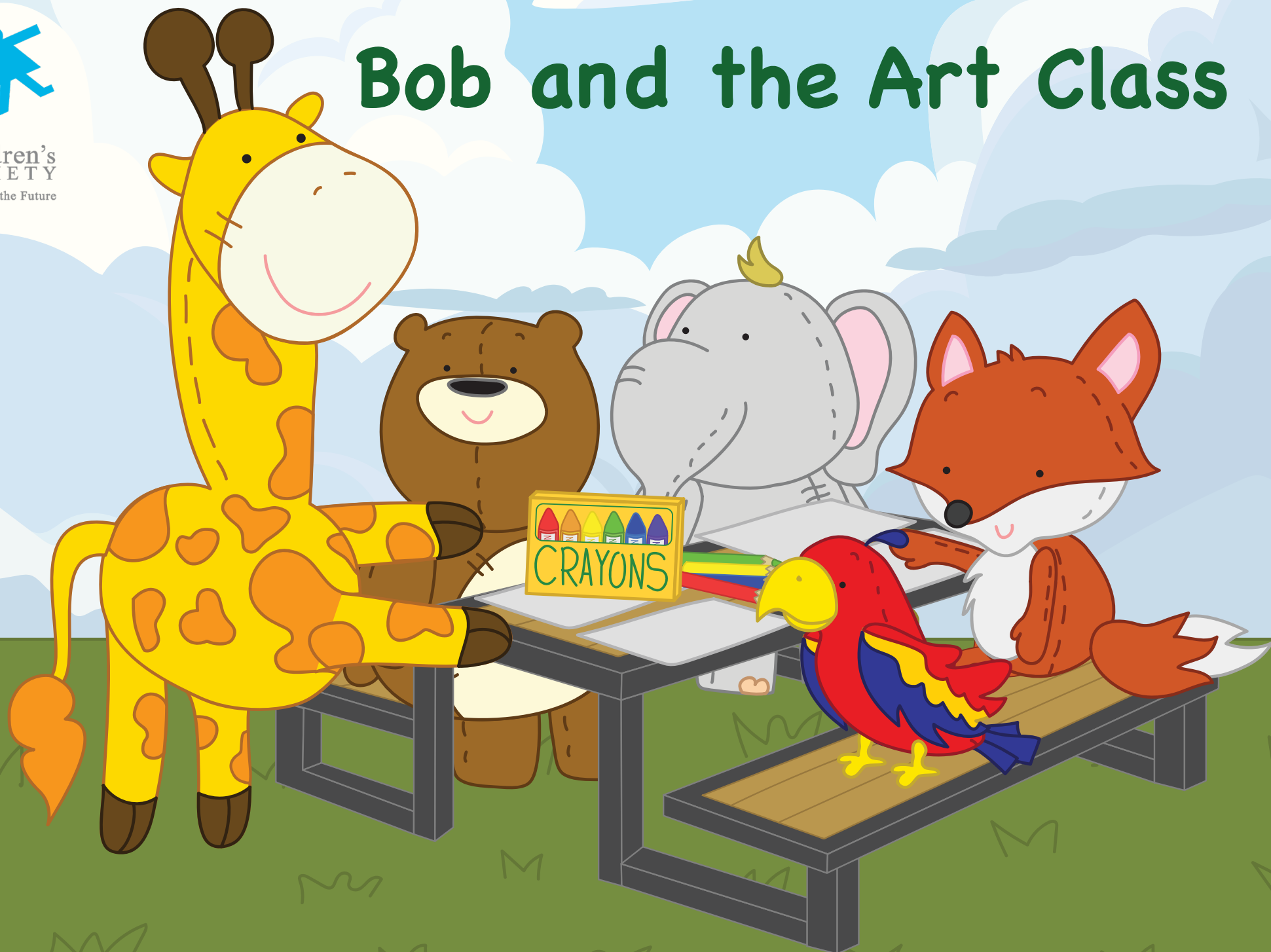




Children's
SOCIETY
Caring for the Future

Bob and the Art Class



About Choo Choo Train

Choo Choo Train is a series of stories and activities aiming to inculcate good values in five and six-year-old children. Children will learn eight values through 16 stories and activities. The stories will feature Eli the elephant and his friends as they learn about each value.

If you are a parent or an educator, there are guided questions at the end of the story that you may ask the children to build their empathy and perspective-taking skills.

Recommended activities are also included for a wholesome experience in learning these values!

About this story

In this story, we will explore the value of consideration. Eli and his friends went to the park for art class. While drawing, Bob took all the crayons, leaving none for his friends. During snack time, Bob took all the muffins, leaving none for his friends. Will Bob show consideration? Read on to find out more.





It was a bright and sunny morning. Eli and his friends went to the park for their art class.

“Here are some crayons and art materials for everyone to share,” said Miss Gina, the teacher, as she laid out all the art materials on the table.

Bob was excited to draw his picture. He quickly grabbed all the crayons for himself.



“May I have the yellow crayon please, Bob?” asked Felix, as he reached out for the yellow crayon.

“No, I need to use it later!” said Bob as he clutched all the crayons closely to his chest.

“But you are not using the yellow crayon now, Bob. I will pass it back to you when I am done using it,” Felix said.



“No. I need to use the crayon,” Bob said as he continued drawing.

Pat wanted the red crayon and asked Bob to pass it over. Again, Bob said, “No, I need to use this crayon later.”

“You are just holding the crayons in your hands, Bob. You are not showing consideration when you take all the crayons for yourself. Miss Gina brought these crayons for everyone!” Pat said with a frown.



“Let’s take a break! It’s snack time!” Miss Gina called out to everyone as she took out a tray of muffins.

Bob ran to Miss Gina and took four muffins for himself.



“Bob, please take just one muffin for yourself. You need to share some muffins with the rest of your friends too,” said Miss Gina.

“No, I am very hungry, Miss Gina. I want all these muffins for myself!” Bob said as he started eating the muffins in his hands.



“Bob! You took our share of the muffins!” Eli said.

“I am very hungry. You can look for something else to eat,” replied Bob as he continued eating the muffins.

“There are no more muffins left for us,” Pat sulked.



“Bob, you are not being considerate when you take all the muffins for yourself without leaving some for the rest of us,” Felix said.

“You may be hungry but so are we, Bob! Earlier, you did not share the crayons and we were unable to finish colouring our pictures,” Eli added.



Bob's friends were angry. They did not want to be friends with Bob anymore.

Bob stopped eating and looked up as his friends walked away from him. "Eli, Felix and Pat, where are you going? Don't go!" Bob called out to his friends.

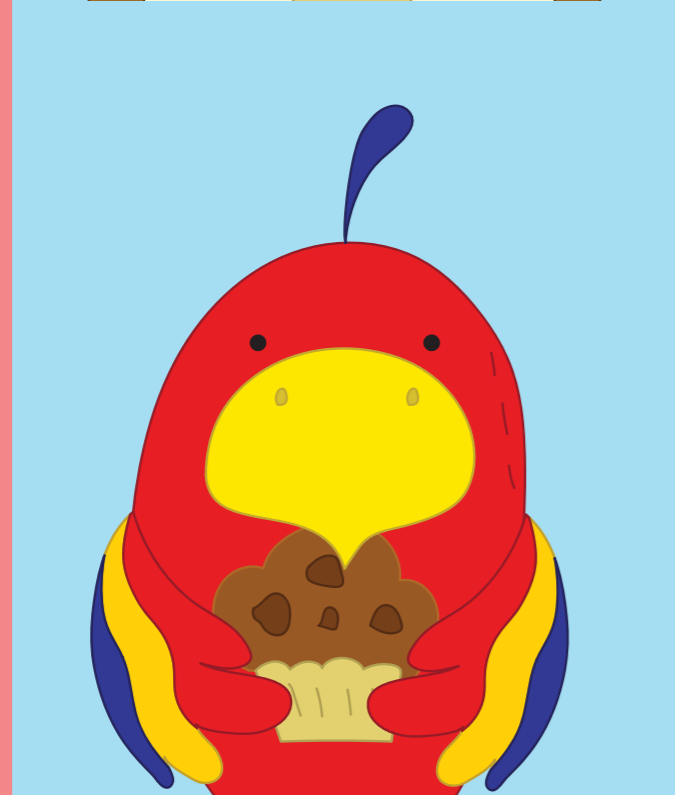
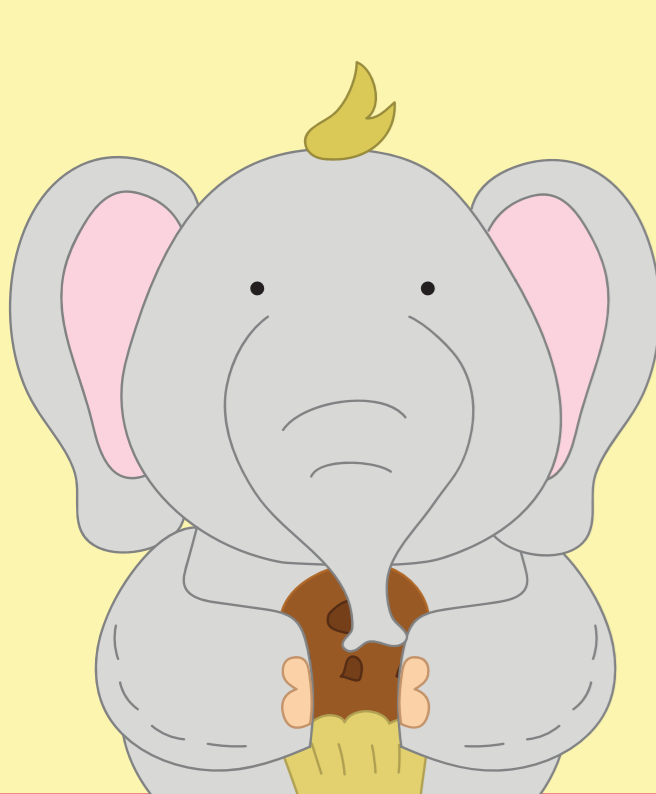
"We don't want to be friends with you anymore because you are not considerate towards us," Eli shouted to Bob.



“How can I be more considerate?” Bob asked.

Bob’s friends walked back to Bob. “You can show consideration by thinking of others before yourself, Bob,” Eli said.

“Yes. When using the crayons, you should only take what you need and let others use the other crayons too. You should not keep all the crayons for yourself,” Pat said.



“When there is food to be shared with others, you should only take your share. Let others have their share too,” Felix said.

Bob looked down. “I am sorry for not being considerate to all of you. I will not keep all the crayons just for myself and I will make sure that there is enough food for everyone. Will you still be my friend?” Eli asked.



“Of course we will... If you let me use the yellow crayon!” Felix said.

“And give us the muffins in your hands!” Pat said with a smile.

Bob and his friends laughed as they enjoyed the muffins together.

Bob was glad that he had learnt about consideration that day.



Ask and Discuss

Here are some questions to further the discussion with your child. The suggested responses serve as a guide.

What value does this story teach?

This story teaches about consideration. Consideration is thinking of others before yourself and knowing how your actions may affect others.



What happened in the story?

Eli and his friends went to the park for their art class. Bob took all the crayons and did not let his friends use any of them. Bob then took all of the muffins, leaving none for his friends.

When did Bob not show consideration? Why do you think Bob did not show consideration?

When Bob kept all of the crayons for himself and did not allow others to use any of it. He also took all of the muffins and did not leave any for his friends. Bob did not show consideration because he was only thinking of his own needs and not the needs of others.



How would you feel if you were Bob's friends and Bob took all of the crayons and muffins?

I would feel sad/angry/disappointed.

(Parents/educators can ask children why they would feel this way and what they would do when they feel this way to encourage children to think about their responses to such feelings.)

Why should Bob show consideration for others?

Bob should show consideration so that his friends can also have crayons to colour their pictures and have their share of the muffins to eat when they are hungry.



What would happen if Bob continued to not show consideration?

Bob's friends will not want to be his friend or eat or play with him anymore.

Activity: A Birthday Party!

In this activity, children will learn how to be considerate by practising this value in a series of role-plays.

Parent/educator/caregiver to act out the following scenarios at a birthday party. At each scenario, children are to decide which action depicts consideration and explain their decision. The chosen action will then be acted out before moving on to the next scenario. You may use additional props or print and cut the images for this role-play exercise.

Scenario 1: Bob arrived at Eli's birthday party. Eli told Bob that they have prepared a lunch buffet. Bob spotted his favourite food – ice cream. How can Bob show consideration to others at the party?



Take as many scoops of ice cream to try out different flavours

or



Take only one scoop of his favourite ice cream flavour

Scenario 2: After the buffet meal, Bob spotted a colouring station. It is Bob's favourite activity. How can Bob show consideration to others at the party?



Take a few crayons at a time and exchange them for other colours when they are no longer needed

or



Take most of the crayons on the table and leaving only two for others

Scenario 3: Eli prepared gift bags for everyone. The gift bags contain Bob's favourite stickers. Bob loves all the designs. How can Bob show consideration towards others?



Take three gift bags home so that he gets more choices of the stickers he likes

or



Select one gift bag and thank Eli for the gift



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ABOUT SINGAPORE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Singapore Children's Society has been helping disadvantaged children, youth and their families in Singapore since 1952. We are an independent and non-profit organisation that relies predominantly on public support for many of our programmes and public education initiatives such as Choo Choo Train.

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