



Children's
SOCIETY
Caring for the Future

Eli and the Class Picture



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 responsibility. Miss Gina told the class to draw some objects so that they could combine the students' drawings into a big picture together. Halfway through the activity, Ray felt bored and asked his friends to play. They had not finished drawing their pictures. Will Ray show responsibility? Read on to find out more.



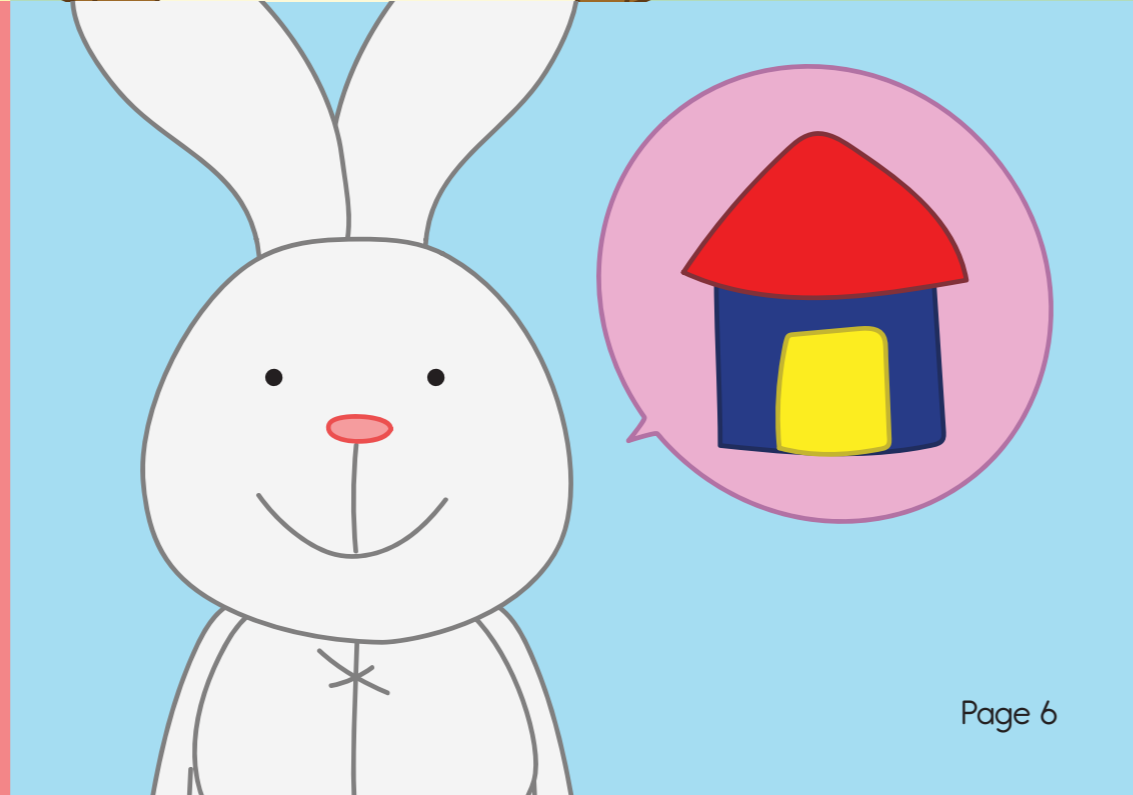
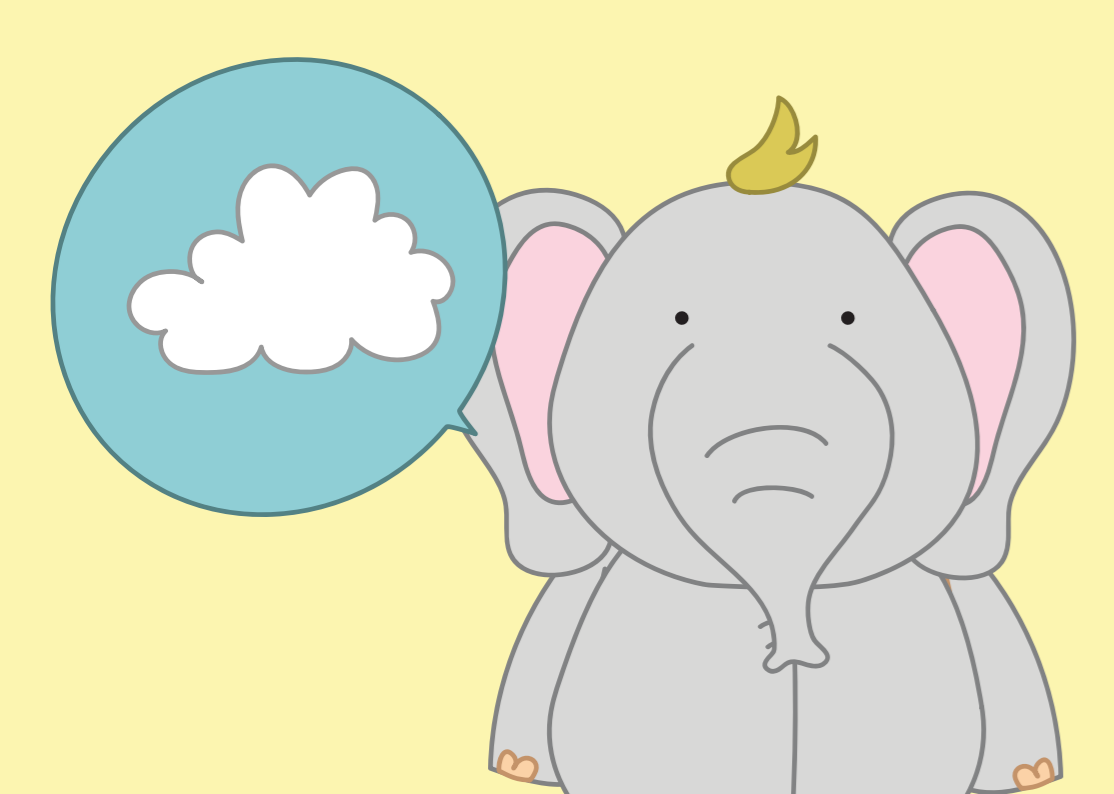


“RING!!!” The school bell rang.

“Good morning, class! Today, we are going to draw a picture together. We will give the picture to Mr Fred, the principal,” Miss Gina, the teacher said.

“Draw a picture together? How?” Eli asked.

“Each of you will draw one object during class time. Before the class ends, we will put the objects that you have drawn together to form a big picture, just like a puzzle,” Miss Gina replied.

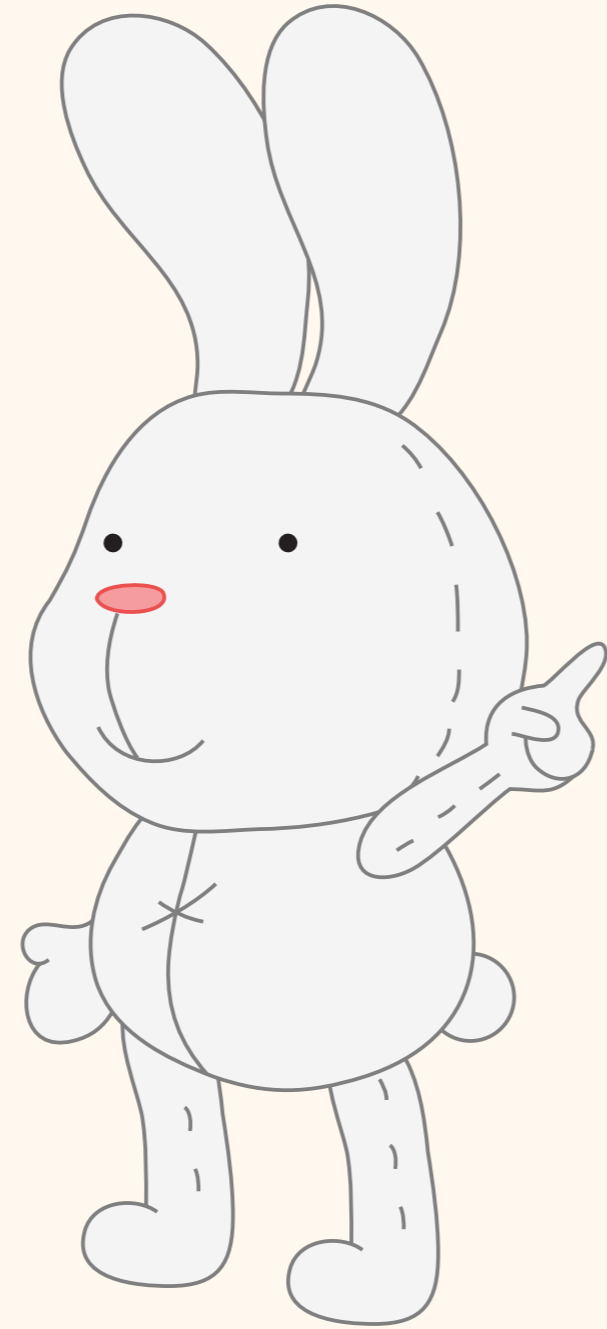


“Eli, you will draw the cloud. Bob will draw the tree. Felix will draw the flowers. Ray will draw the house,” Miss Gina explained.

The animals were excited and could not wait to start drawing their pictures.

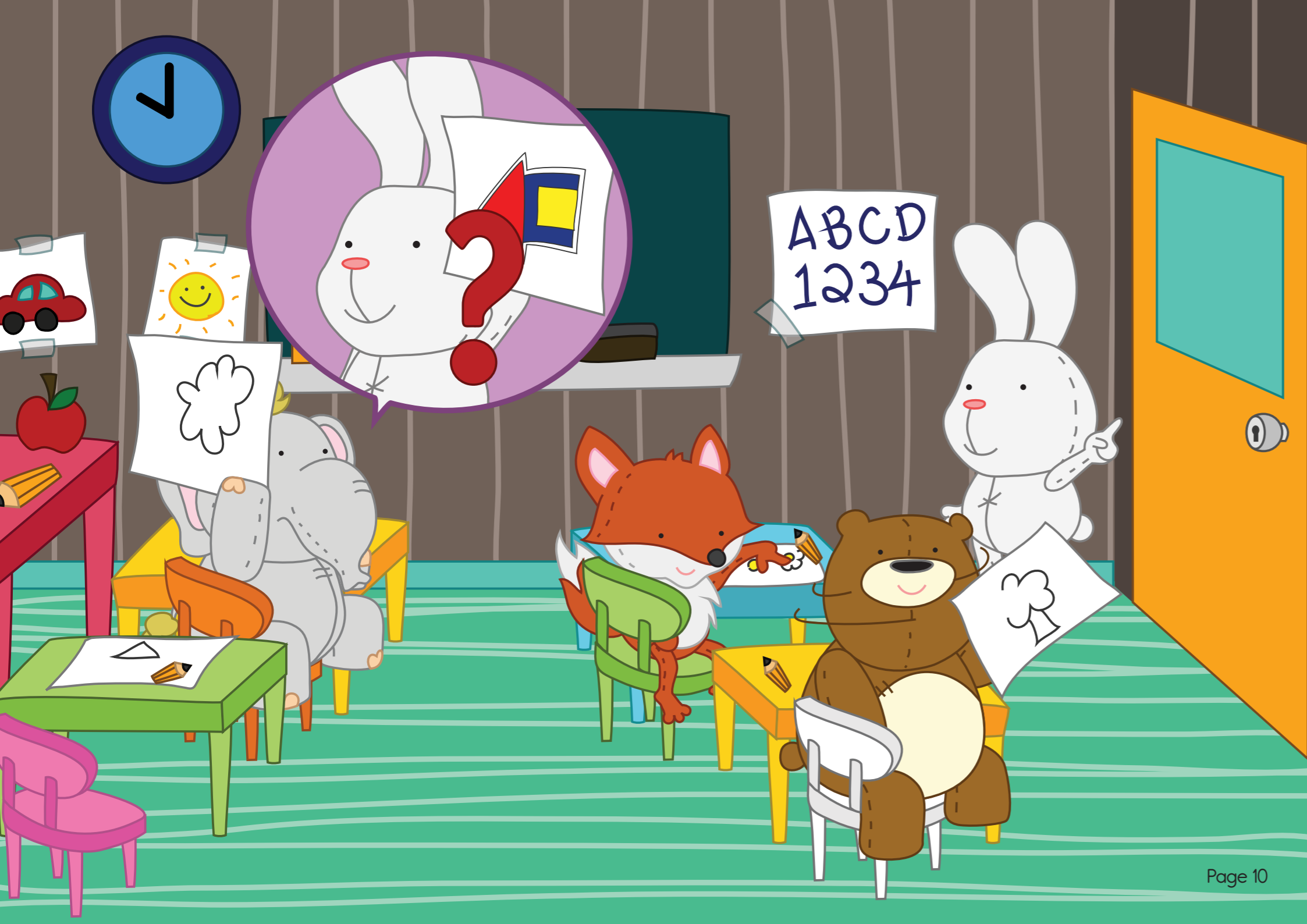
“I will come back later to see what you have drawn. Remember, we will put the objects together before class ends,” Miss Gina told the class.

The animals started drawing their objects excitedly.



Halfway through, Ray started to get bored with the drawing. He wanted to play with his friends instead.

“Eli, Felix and Bob, shall we go outside to play hide and seek” Ray asked his friends.



“No Ray, I have not finished drawing my tree,” Bob said.

“Have you finished drawing your house, Ray?” Eli asked.

“No. I can finish drawing my house later. I want to play now,” Ray replied.

“Ray, we need to be responsible and do what we need to do first. We need to finish our drawings before playing,” Felix said.



“Yes, Miss Gina told us to finish drawing the objects before class ends,” Eli said.

“Never mind, I will go and play ball by myself outside,” Ray said with a frown when his friends did not want to play with him.

Eli, Felix and Bob continued to draw while Ray went out to play by himself.

Not long after, Miss Gina came back to the classroom.



“Class, it’s time to put our picture together. Show me the completed objects that you have drawn!” Miss Gina said excitedly.

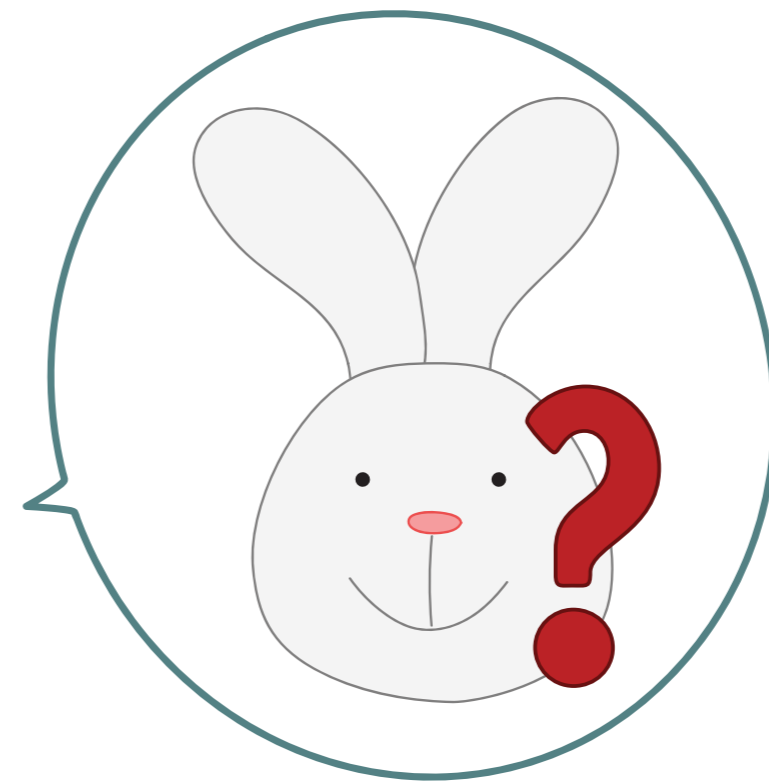
Miss Gina started calling each animal to put their objects together.



“Ray! It’s your turn!” Miss Gina called out.

The animals looked around the classroom but they did not see Ray. He was still playing outside.



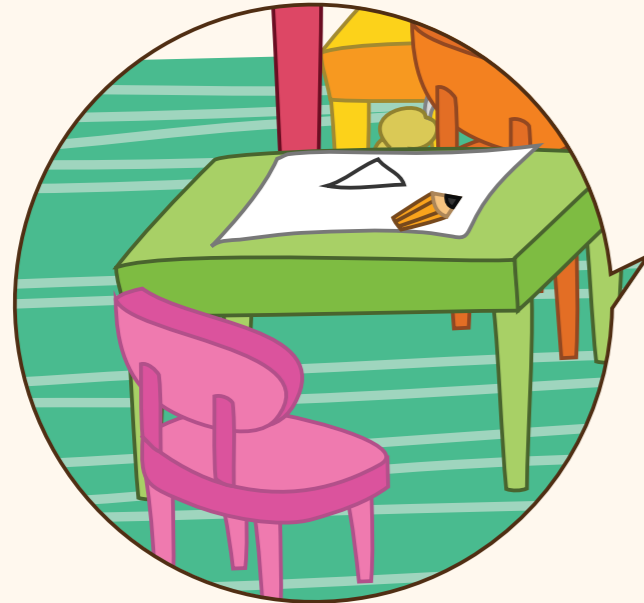


“Ray? Where are you?”
Miss Gina shouted.

Ray heard his name and
hurriedly ran back to the
classroom.

“Yes, Miss Gina?” Ray asked
breathlessly.

“Where is your drawing of
the house?” Miss Gina asked.



“I... have not... finished drawing my house, Miss Gina,” Ray said softly, looking down.

“What were you doing when I asked you to draw your house?” Miss Gina asked angrily.

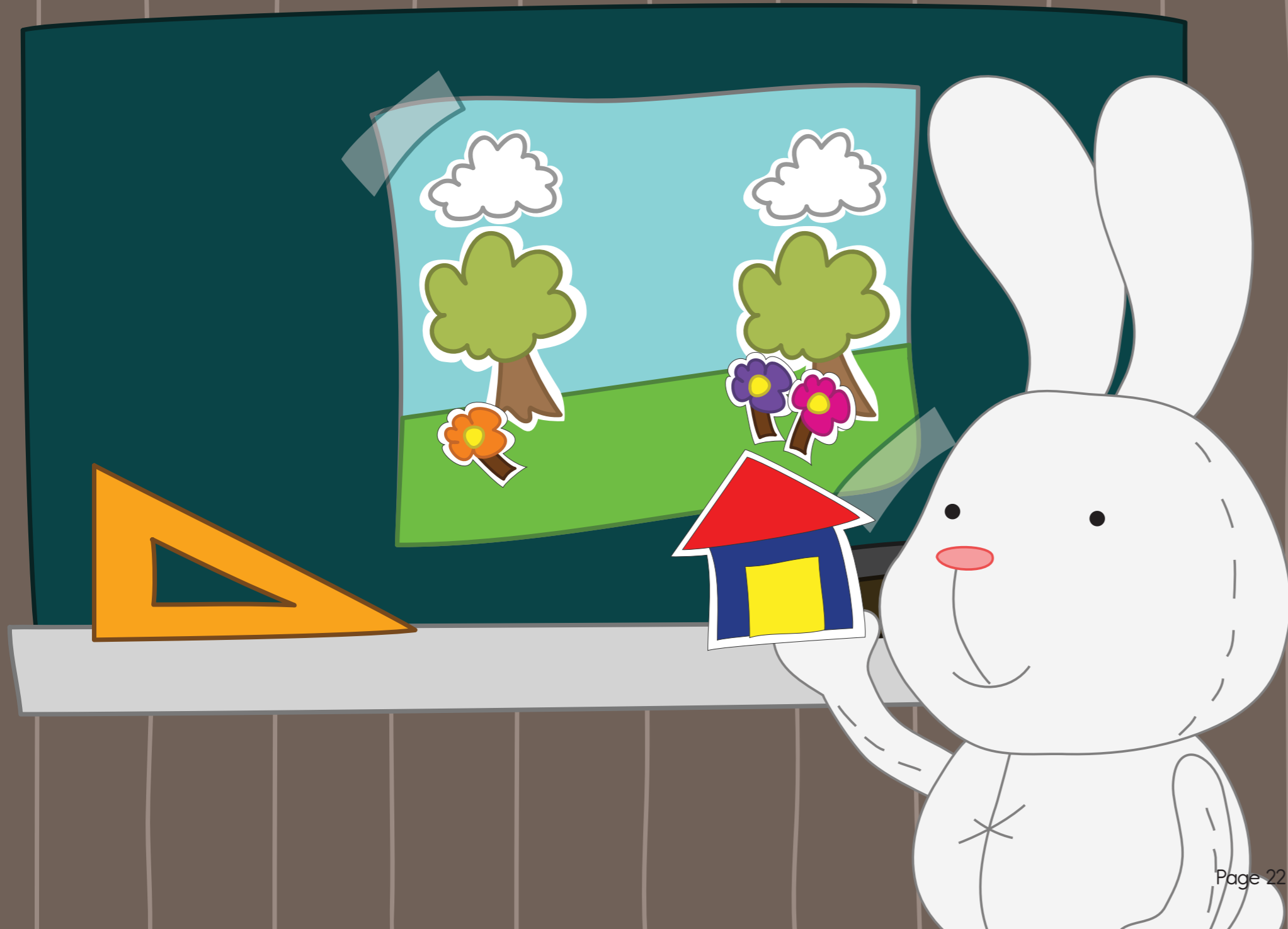
“I... went to play with my ball,” Ray answered.



“Ray, when you go out to play without finishing your drawing, you are not showing responsibility. You did not do what you were supposed to do,” Miss Gina said angrily.

“Now, there is something missing in our big picture because you did not finish drawing your house, Ray,” said Felix.

“I am sorry, Miss Gina and everyone,” Ray said. He did not dare to look at anyone.



“Ray, you can show responsibility now by finishing your drawing. We need to finish what we are supposed to do,” said Eli.

“Yes, Ray. You can finish your drawing now. We will put your house in when you are done,” said Miss Gina.

Ray quickly finished drawing his picture of the house and put it into the empty space of the class picture.



“The picture is now complete!” Eli said happily.

“I will show responsibility and do what I need to do before playing next time. When I am not responsible, the work cannot be finished,” Ray said as he looked at the class picture.

Ray was glad that he had learnt about responsibility that day.



Ask and Discuss

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

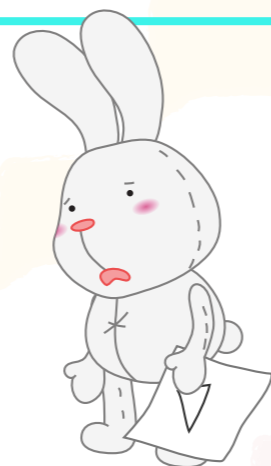


What value does this story teach?

This story teaches about Responsibility. Responsibility is doing what you need to do.

What happened in the story?

Miss Gina asked the class to draw some objects. Ray felt bored and asked his friends to play. His friends wanted to finish drawing their objects first. Ray went to play by himself and did not finish drawing his object in time.



When did Ray not show responsibility? Why do you think Ray did not show responsibility?

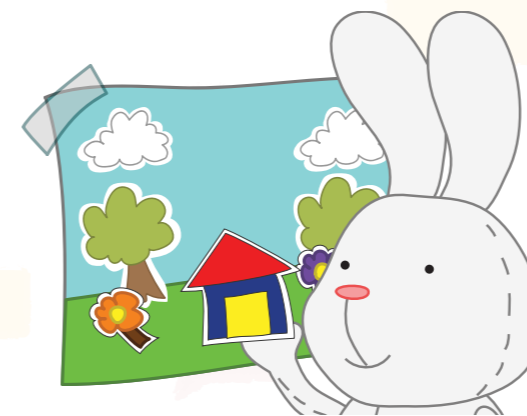
When Ray did not finish drawing his object and went to play first. Ray did not show responsibility because he was bored and went out to play before completing his drawing. He was thinking of himself and what he wanted, and not about the class work.



How would you feel if you were Miss Gina and found out that Ray did not draw the picture?

I would feel upset/disappointed/sad.

(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 Ray show responsibility?

Ray should show responsibility so that the class picture can be completed.

What would happen if Ray continued not to show responsibility?

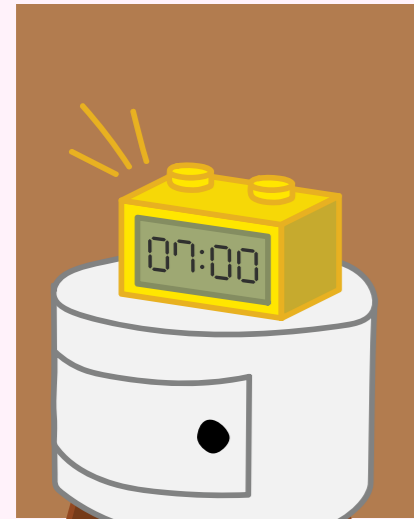
The class picture would not be completed. Ray's friends would be disappointed because Mr Fred would not be able to receive the picture. Miss Gina may not trust Ray in the future to do his work.



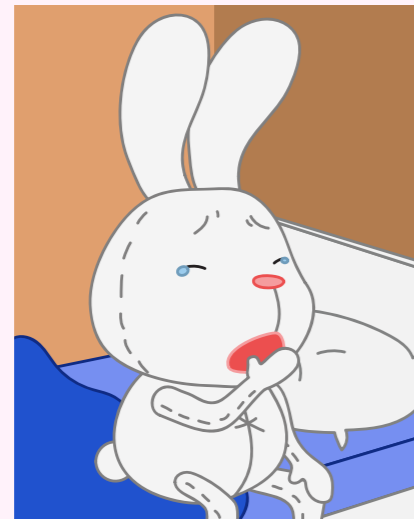
Activity: How can I show responsibility?

In this activity, children will think of ways to show responsibility through role-play. Parent/educator/caregiver can act out the following scenarios and get the children to act out what they can do to show responsibility.

Scenario 1: Oversleeping and ended up being late for school



alarm rings



I am tired. I want to continue sleeping.



stops alarm and continues sleeping



**Wakes up* Oh no, I am late for school!*

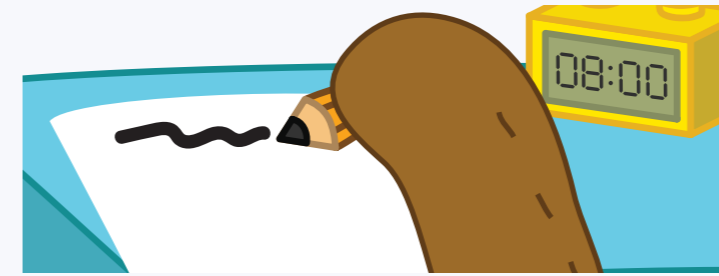
Question:

Suggested response:

How can you show responsibility?

Wake up when the alarm rings or sleep early the night before so that you will be able to wake up feeling refreshed.

Scenario 2: Watching TV before completing homework



"It's time for my favourite show! But I have not completed my homework."

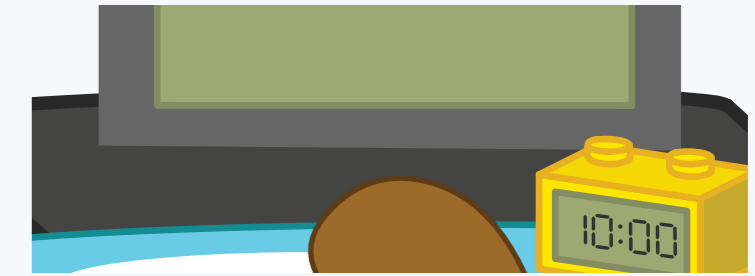
"Never mind, I can finish it after the show."

Question:

Suggested response:

How can you show responsibility?

Finish your homework first before watching TV.



"Oh, the show has ended. I am tired now. It's late and it's time to sleep."

"Oh no! I have not finished my homework."

Scenario 3: Not packing one's school bag



I need to bring my toothbrush to school tomorrow but I cannot find it now. Never mind, I will go and play first. Mummy will pack it for me.

Question:

Suggested response:



next day in school
Where is my toothbrush?



I did not pack it.

How can you show responsibility?

Make sure I pack my school bag for the next day.



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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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