

Eli Goes Out to Play



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 respect. Eli and Felix were playing at the swing. Bob wanted to go first and pushed Felix down. Will Bob wait for his turn? Will Bob show respect? Read on to find out more.





It was a hot and sunny day. Eli and Felix went to the playground to play.

There was only one swing and they both wanted to sit on it.

Eli decided to wait for his turn and let Felix sit on the swing first.

Felix sat on the swing excitedly.



Suddenly, Bob the bear ran to the swing and shouted, “I want to play on the swing!”

“Bob, it’s Felix’s turn on the swing. Show respect and wait for your turn,” said Eli.

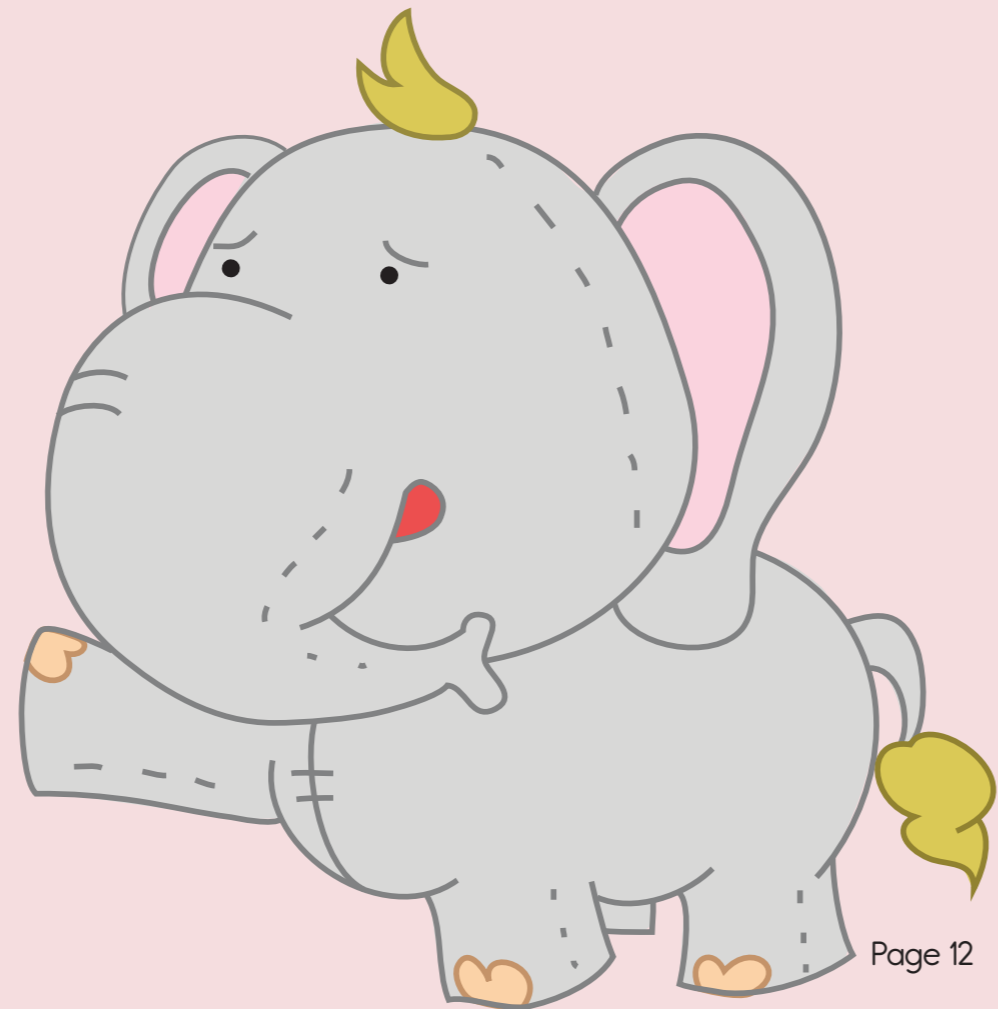


“I don’t care! I want to play now!” shouted Bob angrily.
Bob stretched out his arms and pushed Felix to the ground.



Felix fell to the ground and hurt his leg. Felix then began to cry. “Look what you’ve done, Bob! Felix is crying and he is in pain,” Eli said.

“I don’t care. I want to play now!” shouted Bob angrily.



“Bob, you did not wait for your turn and pushed Felix. Felix got hurt because of your actions. That is not showing respect,” Eli said as he helped Felix up.



“Come Felix, let’s get you cleaned up and we can do something else together. Bob was not showing respect earlier,” Eli said as Felix wiped his tears.

Suddenly, Eli heard loud bell sounds coming from the ice cream truck.

“Yes, let’s go and have some ice cream, Felix!” Eli held Felix’s hand as they walked towards the ice cream truck.



Hearing the loud bells from the ice cream truck too, Bob ran as fast as he could to the truck.

In his haste, Bob stepped on Felix's foot and said, "Hurry up and move away. You are so slow!"

Once again, Bob pushed Felix away and shouted, "One chocolate ice cream!"



“Bob, it is not your turn! You need to wait for your turn,” said Eli.

“I don’t care! I want my chocolate ice cream now!” shouted Bob angrily.

“Bob, you are not showing respect again. First, you did not wait for your turn. Then, you stepped on Felix’s foot and said mean things to him,” Eli said with a frown.



“Bob, we will not be your friends because you do not show respect for others,” Felix said as he walked away with Eli.

“I don’t ca...” Bob shouted but his voice became softer. “...wait, what? Eli and Felix do not want to be my friends anymore?” Bob started to look sad.

“Eli, Felix! Wait! I want you to be my friends,” Bob called out to Eli and Felix.

“But you do not show respect to us, Bob. No one wants to be your friend when you do not show care for us,” Felix said as he continued to walk away.

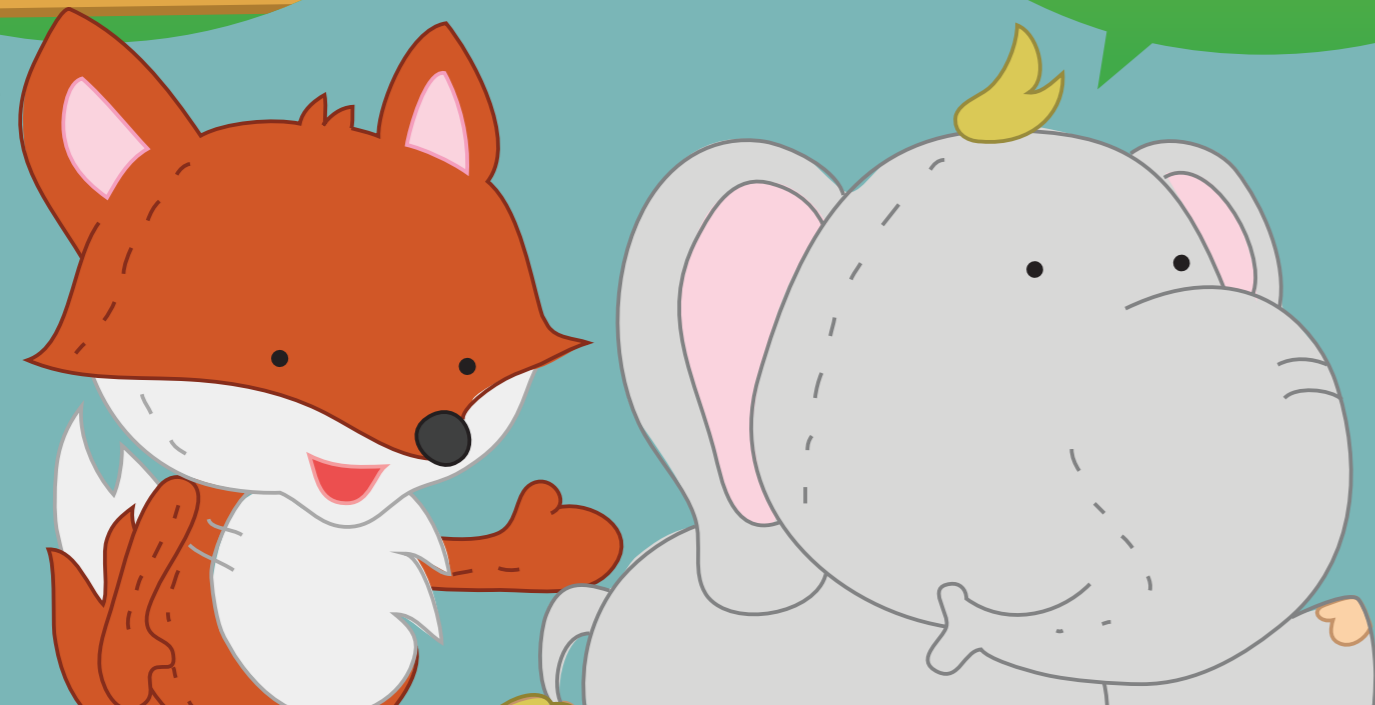


“What is respect? What does it mean?” Bob asked.

Eli and Felix stopped walking. They then turned back and walked towards Bob.

“Respect is knowing that everyone is important and showing care for them, Bob,” explained Eli.

“How do I show respect?” Bob asked.



“Earlier, you wanted to play on the swing and buy an ice cream, but I was in front of you. At both times, you did not wait for your turn. I felt like I was not important to you, especially when you shouted that you do not care,” Felix told Bob.

“And you must not push others or step on them. It will hurt others and make them feel sad, just like how Felix felt sad earlier. You should think of others besides yourself,” Eli said.



“I did not know that I was not showing respect when I pushed you and stepped on your foot, Felix. How can I show respect to you?” Bob asked softly as his face turned red.

“First of all, you can say sorry to Felix! Next, you must remember that everyone is important and show care for others,” Eli said.



“I am sorry for pushing you, stepping on your foot and saying mean things to you, Felix. Will you and Eli be my friends and play with me?” Bob asked shyly.

“Of course we will be your friends!” Eli said excitedly.

“If you remember to show respect, Bob!” Felix added.

“Last to reach the playground will be the catcher!” Bob shouted as he ran quickly to the playground.

Bob was glad that he had learnt about respect 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 Respect. Respect is knowing everyone is important and caring for them.

What happened in the story?



Eli and Felix were taking turns to play on the swing. Bob came around and wanted to play on the swing, so he pushed Felix off the swing. Next, Eli and Felix went to buy ice cream but Bob cut Felix's queue for the ice cream and stepped on his foot.

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

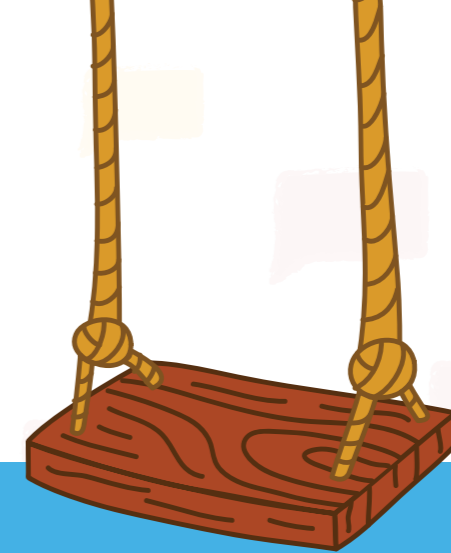


When Bob pushed Felix, cut his queue at the ice cream truck, stepped on his foot and kept saying "I don't care". Bob did not show respect because he might have been excited to play or get ice cream. Page 30

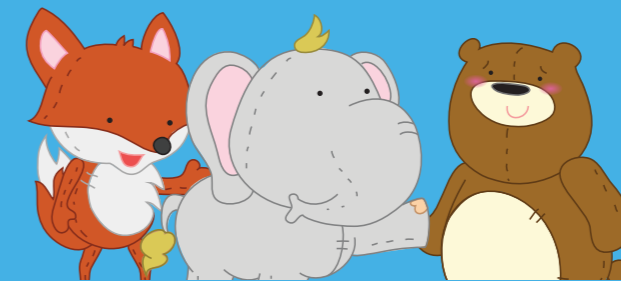
How would you feel if you were Felix?



I would feel sad and angry. (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.)

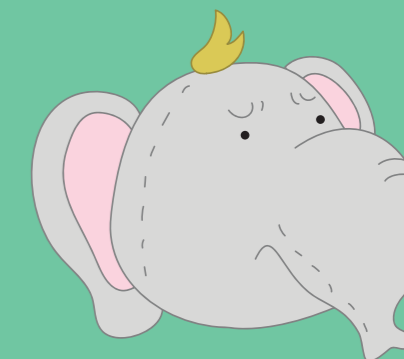


Why should Bob show respect?



Bob should show respect so as to show care for his friends' feelings. When he shows respect, Eli and Felix will play with him and he will have friends.

What would happen to Bob if he continued to not show respect?



Felix and Eli would not want to be his friend or play with him anymore.

Activity: Let's Get Some Ice Cream

In this activity, children will learn what to say during turn-taking through role-play.

1. Parent/educator/caregiver to role-play as Felix by putting both hands above head as the ears.
2. Child to role-play as Bob by clenching fists as the paws in Scenario 1 and as Eli by crossing both arms over as an elephant nose in Scenario 2.
3. Adult to let child know that you will pretend to buy ice cream and get the child to push you aside to rush to the front like what Bob did in the story.

Scenario 1

Felix to pretend to be paying for the ice cream. Bob pushes Felix aside and goes in front of him saying, "I don't care, I'll go first."



Ask child if Bob is showing respect.



Take turns to role-play the different characters with your child. Let child know that waiting for their turn is a way to show respect.

Scenario 2

Felix to pretend to be paying for the ice cream. Eli waits behind Felix saying, "You were here first, you should go first. I also care for how you feel."



Ask child if Eli is showing respect.



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