

Behavior Management in 4K

THE most important things to learn in preschool are how to cooperate, follow directions cheerfully, have pleasant manners, and manage feelings and emotions with grace. Here are some ways that we help guide our students.

- **Pom-Pom Bucket** - The wonderful book, Have You Filled A Bucket Today? by Carol McCloud will be read and referenced regularly throughout the year. You can fill a bucket by making people feel good, and in turn your own bucket is filled with good feelings about yourself. You dip someone's bucket by being selfish, hurtful, or unkind. When you're caught being a bucket filler, we add pom-poms to our Class bucket. When the Pom-pom bucket is full, the class will receive a special treat like popcorn for snack or bubbles on the playground.
- **Compliment Chain** – When our class receives a compliment from another adult (quiet line in the hallway, good manners at lunch, great behavior at a special), we will add a plastic link to our compliment chain. When the chain reaches the desired length, we will have a celebration!
- **Love, logic, patience, and consistency** – Our classroom will be an environment filled with positive reinforcement and consistent, loving discipline. There will not be a color system or behavior reports. There will be a culture of reasonable expectations and an emphasis on personal responsibility. Disagreements amongst children, testing boundaries, being spirited...these things come with the territory and will be handled on a case by case basis. We have to teach and model the behaviors we want to see. Mostly, if it happens at preschool, it stays at preschool 😊 But if there is an issue that needs your attention, I will promptly contact you. Please also know that you can contact me with concerns or questions. On rare occasions a discipline problem will become a distraction to the learning environment of the class as a whole, in those instances the help of the administration would be enlisted.
- **Help Wanted** – As a preschool team, we would like to enlist your help by reinforcing good manners at home. Courtesy, a respectful tone, and good table manners are an invaluable asset for your child.