SESSION 1

Peer Role Models

What Students Should Learn

• Young people from their local community display positive, healthy behaviors and skills.

• Young people who want to succeed have to work hard.

• Young people can learn special techniques to succeed.

Concepts Behind This Session

Role models are real people or fictional characters whose appearance and actions are attractive. By observing and imitating role models, we:

• Learn many new behaviors and skills.
  
  Example: New words, new games, new songs, new jobs, new ways to meet people.

• See the negative or positive consequences of being like the role model.
  
  Example: Teacher disciplines a disruptive student, parent praises a child who shows respect for older people.

• Imagine or anticipate what it would feel like to be that person.
  
  Example: Being a successful professional and driving a nice car; being a criminal and going to prison.

• Learn the various parts of complex activities.
  
  Example: The steps of a dance, a cheerleader routine, making new friends, protecting ourselves when home alone, making difficult decisions.

• Learn that our behavior determines how others treat us.
  
  Example: How we are liked, accepted, respected, ignored, rejected or punished.
Discuss the Video’s Main Messages

- Luis concentrates in doing what he does well. He tries activities that develop his talents as a musician.
- Luis has to work hard at school to keep up his grades so he can enjoy these extra activities.
- Luis’ family is concerned about his friends. They first meet them and then allow Luis to bring them home.
- Luis wants to go to college to become an architect.

Explain the Activity

Purpose
Children choose a role model.

Instructions
- Pass the Activity Sheet and insist that the role model they choose be a real person, somebody they know.
- It may be easier to have the students start drawing their role model first (side 2) and then to answer the questions on side 1.
- Encourage the students to take their work home and ask their parents or other adults in the home for help and praise.

Close the Session.

What did we learn today?
Try to get as many responses as possible and praise each one. Have children congratulate each other with “high fives” or applause.
Dear Parents:

Our special activity today was about “role models.” We showed the class a short video about a young Hispanic student. He is successful in school and in many other activities. This shows children that there are many different ways to be successful in life.

Children were asked to choose an adult person (preferably Hispanic) that they know and admire. Then, children answered the questions below. We are asking you and other adults to help them complete this activity. You can call or visit this person and let your child “interview” him or her. We ask you to encourage your children to post their portraits or drawings in a special place, near their beds or where they do their homework.

1. **My role model is:**
   Mi modelo se llama: ____________________________________________

2. **My role model is special because:**
   Mi modelo es especial porque: __________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

3. **This is the advice my role model gave me:**
   Este es el consejo que mi modelo me dió: ____________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
My Role Model
His/Her Name

A role model is someone you want to be like!

GOOD JOB!
MY NAME