



Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners

by Laurie Keller

Classroom Discussion & SEL Guide

Do Unto Otters introduces young readers to the Golden Rule—treat others the way you want to be treated—through humorous examples and relatable social situations. As Mr. Rabbit learns how to welcome his new neighbors, the story explores kindness, respect, empathy, and cooperation in an engaging and accessible way. Laurie Keller’s playful illustrations support meaningful conversations around social-emotional learning and positive behavior.

Instructional Focus

- Social-emotional learning (SEL)
- Kindness and respect
- Empathy and perspective-taking
- Building positive relationships
- Classroom community and behavior expectations

Read-Aloud & Discussion Prompts

- What does the Golden Rule mean?
- How does Mr. Rabbit learn how to treat the otters?
- How do the characters show kindness and respect?
- How would you want others to treat you in a new place?
- How can we use the Golden Rule in our classroom?

Why This Book Matters

Do Unto Otters is a powerful mentor text for teaching social-emotional skills and establishing positive classroom norms. By using humor and concrete examples, it helps students understand how their actions affect others and encourages empathy, kindness, and respectful behavior. This book is especially effective for building a strong classroom community.

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