

# Handling Name Calling

## Social Emotional Learning

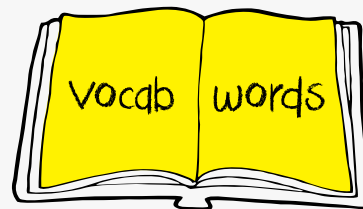
**Project and Purpose:** Students discuss, devise and demonstrate practical ideas for handling name calling.

### Essential Question:

What are some calm and effective ways to successfully handle name calling?



- The story *The Lion and the Donkey*
- Stay Calm chant (projected or written on chart paper)



name calling

handle

**Room Set up:** Chairs, tables and desks pushed back to create an open space to move and interact.

# Introduction

Teach the Stay Calm chant that teaches steps to handle name calling.

If someone calls you a name,  
Don't do the same –  
JUST-STAY-CALM

Take a deep breath and walk away  
Find a friend, no need to stay!  
JUST-STAY-CALM! Yeah!!

# Direct Instruction (I do)

1. Read the story *The Lion and the Donkey*.
2. After the story, explain that ignoring the person who is calling names is the brave response. But if it continues even when you walk away, it is no longer safe for you to be around that person. When someone does not stop name-calling, it is ok to find an adult you trust and tell them what is happening. This is NOT tattling, it is telling.
3. Demonstrate how you use your body and imagination to show how to walk around the room like the Lion.

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## Guided Exploration (We do)

1. Have everyone stand as they are able and direct them to begin calmly walking on two feet around the room like the Lions.
2. Explain that when they hear /see the signal (hand clap, lights out- teacher choice) students will stop and find the other 'Lions' closest to them and calmly come together to form a Pride of Lions.
3. Practice this several times until everyone has developed their Lion walk and ability to carefully form a Pride of Lions with others.

## Independent Practice (You do)

1. Explain that you will now be the Donkey and call the students (who will be Lions) goofy names. One or two students at a time will practice ignoring, walking away, and finding a friend or "Pride of Lions".
2. Teacher In-Role as the Donkey can say ridiculous things, the sillier the better. Suggestions: Look at that snoofy doofy Lion! You are a blueberry! Hey Loopy Tail! Look at all the Fuzzy Furballs! (It might help to have a list handy.)
3. Encourage the other students to stand in a Pride as Lions and have one student (or several at a time for Kindergarten) walk around the room as a Lion while you in-role as the Donkey and call them silly names. Each student will practice ignoring, walking away, and finding a friend.

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## Conclusion/Reflection

1. Lead a discussion about how to handle name calling, reminding the students that no matter what, they need to remember in their hearts that whatever is said to hurt is not true. They remain who they are.
2. Everyone says the Stay Calm Chant:

If someone calls you a name,  
Don't do the same –  
JUST-STAY-CALM

Take a deep breath and walk away  
Find a friend, no need to stay!  
JUST-STAY-CALM! Yeah!!

3. **Connect to the classroom:** Remind everyone how to handle name calling: stay calm, don't respond, just walk away.

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# Personal Reflection

Find a friend and come up with actions for the Stay Calm Chant.

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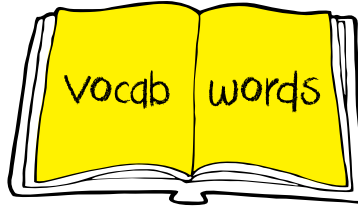
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## Vocabulary Definitions

### name calling (n)

- Definition: abusive language or insults.
- Context: I remember I felt so sad when someone used name calling and said I was ugly and fat.

### handle (v)

- Definition: manage a situation or problem.
- Context: Sarah stayed calm and handled the problem quickly.

## The Lion and the Donkey

One day a pride of Lions walked down the forest path. As they passed, the other animals showed their respect by stepping out of the way to make room for the mighty animals.

But the Donkey brayed loudly and said mean and scornful words as the Lions passed.

The Lions turned and looked and saw that it was the Donkey teasing and calling names. All but one Lion ignored the Donkey and calmly walked by. But one Lion stopped for just a moment and looked at the Donkey. Thinking better of saying anything in return, she walked on and joined her pride of Lions.

**Moral:** Ignore those who call you names.