A display of bad sportsmanship helped Colt Barron realize how being courteous can have a positive impact on others.

Many parents involve their children in organized sports as a way of building positive character traits like loyalty, responsibility, cooperation and courtesy. These children learn that sportsmanship involves being polite, giving everyone a chance and not becoming angry if one loses. Some adults, however, still need to learn this lesson. It is all too common to see professional athletes come to blows during a sporting event. This decline in sportsmanship and courtesy at the professional level may be spilling over into the local arenas where children play. Ten-year-old Colt Barron and his father recount a perfect example of what can go wrong when adults don’t set a good example of sportsmanship for children. During an argument over a “bad call” at a basketball game, Colt witnessed a referee attack his coach with a knife. Police arrested the referee, and Colt’s coach was taken to a hospital. The event had a lasting impression on the parents and fans in attendance and forced them to re-evaluate the importance of displaying courtesy on and off the field.

Discussion Questions:

1. What character traits can you identify in Colt?
2. What do you think sportsmanship means? How do courtesy and sportsmanship go hand in hand?
3. If you were to grade the athletes and fans at your school on sportsmanship, what grade would they earn? Why?
4. What are some of the ways in which fans can show courtesy from the stands while watching a sporting event?
5. Have you ever witnessed adults who became upset or angry while attending a sporting event or other competition in which their children were involved? What were the circumstances? How did their behavior make you feel?
6. Who influences you the most concerning sportsmanship: a coach, a teacher, your parents or people working in the field in which you are competing? Explain.
7. Do you agree with the statement, “Winning isn’t everything”? Why or why not?
8. How far would you bend the rules in order to win?
9. Do you feel pressure from your parents or others to always be a winner? How do you handle this pressure? Do you agree with this way of thinking? Explain.
10. How do you feel when you win as a result of your hard work? How do you feel when you work hard, but you still lose?
Activity: You Can Say That Again

Objectives:

Students will be able to
- Review the definitions of vocabulary words
- Interpret the meanings of various quotes
- Associate vocabulary words with various quotes
- Explain the relationship between various quotes and vocabulary words

Materials:
- Pens, pencils
- Paper
- Courtesy Vocabulary Words and Definitions handout
- You Can Say That Again handout

Procedure:

1. As a homework assignment, instruct your students to review the Courtesy Vocabulary Words and Definitions handout. *This handout can be posted to the web.

2. Open the activity by reading the following quote to your students:

   "A loving person lives in a loving world. A hostile person lives in a hostile world. Everyone you meet is your mirror." – Ken Keys
   *This can also be a part of the homework assignment if you record you reading on VoiceThread.com.

3. Continue the activity by having your students discuss the meaning of Keys’ quote.

4. After your students conclude the meaning of the quote, ask them to consider which of their vocabulary words they would associate with Keys’ quote. Each student who offers a word should also explain the relationship between the vocabulary word and the quote.

   Examples:
   - Courtesy – If you are courteous to people, then you will notice courtesy in others.
   - Chivalrous – If you are chivalrous to people, then you will notice chivalry in others.
   - Irate – If you are irate and act without thinking, then others will react to you in an irate manner without thinking.

5. Explain to your students that they will work in small groups to read and interpret the meanings of various quotes. Then, group members will write the vocabulary word or words that they associate with the quote. Finally, each group will write an explanation of the relationships it made between the vocabulary words and the quote.

6. Divide the class into groups of four or five students, and distribute one section of the You Can Say That Again handout to each group.

7. Allow time for groups to complete their assignments. Then, instruct each group to share at least one of the relationships it made and an explanation of the relationship.

Note: For extra credit, you may decide to allow your students to research biographical information about the author of one of the quotes.

Sources:
Vocabulary Words and Definitions:

Chivalrous (adj.)
Definition: behaving in a polite, kind, generous and honorable way, especially toward women
Context: Harry’s chivalrous behavior, which included opening the door, impressed his date.

Courtesy (n.)
Definition: polite behavior that shows a person has respect for other people
Context: Her students’ display of courtesy during the guest speaker’s presentation impressed Mrs. Finch.

Disrespect (n.)
Definition: a lack of courtesy, consideration, admiration, etc., for someone
Context: Many children show disrespect for their peers by teasing or taunting them.

FAQs (n.)
Definition: a list of frequently asked questions and their answers about a given subject
Context: Most websites include a page for FAQs about a specific topic.

Hinder (v.)
Definition: to make it difficult for someone to perform a task or for something to develop
Context: The high cost of the vaccine severely hindered its use in poor countries.

Insistent (adj.)
Definition: demanding firmly and often that something should happen or that something is true
Context: Grandma was insistent that her grandchildren wipe their feet before coming in her kitchen.

Irate (adj.)
Definition: extremely angry, especially because a person thinks he or she has been treated unfairly
Context: After receiving poor service and being overcharged by the server, the customer became irate.

Sexual harassment (n.)
Definition: sexual remarks, looks or methods of touching directed toward someone who does not want them
Context: When Marcus made a sexual gesture toward Angelina, she accused him of sexual harassment.

Sportsmanship (n.)
Definition: behavior that is fair, honest and polite in a game or sports competition
Context: As a result of the poor sportsmanship, the referee stopped the match and asked the spectators to be more courteous toward the players.

Trait (n.)
Definition: a particular quality in a person’s character
Context: The traits to look for in a good server include courteousness, politeness and helpfulness.

Directions: With your group, read each of the quotes below, and interpret their meanings. Then, associate each quote with at least one of your vocabulary words. You may use more than one word for each quote, and you may use a word more than once. Write a short explanation for each relationship you make. Follow the example below, and use a clean piece of paper for your answers.

Example Quote: “A loving person lives in a loving world. A hostile person lives in a hostile world. Everyone you meet is your mirror.” – Ken Keys

Meaning: Your outlook on life reflects the way you perceive the world around you.

Word: Association:
   Courtesy  If you are courteous to people, then you will notice courtesy in others.
   Chivalrous  If you are chivalrous to people, then you will notice chivalry in others.
   Irate  If you are irate and act without thinking, then others will react to you in an irate manner without thinking.

Group Quotes:
“Your can’t shake hands with a clenched fist.” – Indira Gandhi
“Never believe that a few caring people can’t change the world.” – Margaret Mead
“Politeness costs nothing and gains everything.” – Lady Mary Wortley Montagu

You Can Say That Again – Group 2

Directions: With your group, read each of the quotes below, and interpret their meanings. Then, associate each quote with at least one of your vocabulary words. You may use more than one word for each quote, and you may use a word more than once. Write a short explanation for each relationship you make. Follow the example below, and use a clean piece of paper for your answers.

Example Quote: “A loving person lives in a loving world. A hostile person lives in a hostile world. Everyone you meet is your mirror.” – Ken Keys

Meaning: Your outlook on life reflects the way you perceive the world around you.

Word: Association:
   Courtesy  If you are courteous to people, then you will notice courtesy in others.
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Group Quotes:
“I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand.” – Confucius
“The unforgivable crime is soft hitting. Do not hit at all if it can be avoided; but never hit softly.” – Theodore Roosevelt
“If you can’t return a favor, pass it on.” – Louise Brown
Directions: With your group, read each of the quotes below, and interpret their meanings. Then, associate each quote with at least one of your vocabulary words. You may use more than one word for each quote, and you may use a word more than once. Write a short explanation for each relationship you make. Follow the example below, and use a clean piece of paper for your answers.

### Example

**Quote:**
“A loving person lives in a loving world. A hostile person lives in a hostile world. Everyone you meet is your mirror.” – Ken Keys

**Meaning:** Your outlook on life reflects the way you perceive the world around you.

**Word:** Association:
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### Group Quotes:

“Without a struggle, there can be no progress.” – Frederick Douglass

“The child becomes largely what he is taught; hence we must watch what we teach, and how we live.” – Jane Addams

“Remember, no one can make you feel inferior without your consent.” – Eleanor Roosevelt
You Can Say That Again – Group 5

Directions: With your group, read each of the quotes below, and interpret their meanings. Then, associate each quote with at least one of your vocabulary words. You may use more than one word for each quote, and you may use a word more than once. Write a short explanation for each relationship you make. Follow the example below, and use a clean piece of paper for your answers.

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Group Quotes:

“The greatest remedy for anger is delay.” – Seneca

“No pessimist ever discovered the secret of the stars, or sailed to an uncharted land, or opened a new doorway for the human spirit.” – Helen Keller

“No person is your friend who demands your silence, or denies your right to grow.” – Alice Walker

You Can Say That Again – Group 6

Directions: With your group, read each of the quotes below, and interpret their meanings. Then, associate each quote with at least one of your vocabulary words. You may use more than one word for each quote, and you may use a word more than once. Write a short explanation for each relationship you make. Follow the example below, and use a clean piece of paper for your answers.

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Group Quotes:

“Good breeding consists in concealing how much we think of ourselves and how little we think of the other person.” – Mark Twain

“Many argue; not many converse.” – Louisa May Alcott

“Leave something good in every day.” – Dolly Parton