

LESSON 03

MANISH LEARNS ABOUT RESPECT

- MANISH:** Oh boy, I really hate my teacher. She looks like a frog and goes croak croak.
- BINA:** Are you talking about Mrs. Mehta?
- MANISH:** Whom else would I be talking about? The old frog drives me crazy. She keeps on picking on me and she will not keep her nose out of my business.
- BINA:** That's a terrible way to talk, Manish. You know Mrs. Mehta is a nice teacher.
- MANISH:** In a way, she's nice. But, she would be a lot nicer if she would leave me alone.
- BINA:** Remember the time she stayed with you after school and helped you do your homework?
- MANISH:** So what?
- BINA:** Do you remember the time she let you have her lunch when you lost yours?
- MANISH:** So?
- BINA:** Do you remember the time she spent her money buying us special treats?
- MANISH:** Well.....
- BINA:** Well, what?
- MANISH:** Oh, I forgot about all of those times. I really did!
- BINA:** Remember the time you yelled out in class, "Yabba, Dabba, do! I'm right here in front of you?" She never got mad at you.
- MANISH:** I guess I shouldn't be so thankless.
- BINA:** You should never, never talk about a grown up like that. That's what respect is all about, Manish.
- MANISH:** What is respect?

BINA: When you are nice to and value what others have to say... that is respect. You should respect your teachers, parents, relatives, older brothers and sisters, and policemen, etc.

MANISH: I don't like the policemen. They scare me to death.

BINA: They are doing their job protecting us from bad guys. You should respect them.

MANISH: That's a new big word for me. I haven't been respectful to anyone that I know.

BINA: We learned in our Jain class that we should respect everyone. We get good karmas by doing so.

MANISH: How on the earth do I start?

BINA: You should start by paying respect to your parents. You should obey them every time. Next, start paying respect to our school teachers and teachers at the Jain center.

MANISH: How did you get so smart? You seem to know all about respect.

BINA: Well, I go to Jain Pathshala and that is where they teach us these things. Maybe you need to come to Pathshala too.

MANISH: Well, you are right. I will listen to you and go to Pathshala with you.

BINA: I am older than you, so you better respect me too!

Should we make a song of respect and sing it.

Manish – Yeah, Let's sing!

“Respect, it's a great thing to do!
Our parents, we do respect you.
Teachers you are the best,
Even if you give hard tests!
We respect you!

Oh, all our elders,
Aunties, uncles, sisters, brothers
We know you mean well,
We respect you!

And grandparents so loving they are
To you, so full of respect we are!

We salute all the Sādhus
We salute all the Sādhis so true,
Yes, respect, it's a great thing to do!"