

Middos Play

By Mrs. Adina Dan

Grade Level: Elementary

Description:

Updated July 2017! This entertaining and educational skit uses adorable song and rhyming text to teach about the importance of derech erez and having good middos. This play can be used when learning Pirkei Avos or as part of a unit on middos. The skit covers the following topics: middos in general, kiddush Hashem, derech erez, chessed, patience, and hakkaras hatov.

Goals/Objectives:

Students will use song and rhyme to internalize the importance of derech erez and middos tovos.

Instructions:

1. The teacher should decide which songs and sections of the play she wants to use with her students.
2. After the ideas have been taught and the students are familiar with the different middos mentioned, they can practice the songs and rehearse.
3. Your students can perform the skit for each other, for another class, or you may invite mothers to come watch!
4. **OPTIONAL:** Put one Hebrew letter of the word Todah rabbah on each student's back, so they can spin around during the thank you song as they say the letters.

2nd grade Middos play

בְּרוּכִים הַבָּאִים, parents, girls, and boys

We've prepared very hard and we hope you all enjoy.

This play is about Middos, the way that we act

It's our job as Jews to polish them- that's a fact.

Each person is born with a personality

But we can't say "I'm who I am- learn to live with me!"

We must put the effort in to change a bad character trait

A Jew's work is never done- good middos just won't wait.

Tune and lyrics by Dina Storch

How big is the world, a muddled mass of people
Different as the night and day
But sometimes there's one who bothers or mistreats me,
Tries to steal my fun away.

At times I do think that maybe I could change her,
Or teach him what I think is true.
But if you're out to change the world, the trick to turn the tide is
First to make the change in you.

More smiles, more thought, consideration,
 Helping hands, determination-
 It's up to me to be the best I can!
 It's all for one and one for all,
 Build a better K'lal Yisroel,
 Change yourself and you have changed the world!
 Change yourself and you have changed the world!

When we go in public, we always act right,
 Making a קדוש ה' by day and by night.
 Non-Jews and Yidden both see the way we act
 And hopefully our דרך ארץ will have a big impact.

Be polite and never scream,
 Always play nicely and don't be mean,
 Listen when your mother calls,
 And do not run when you're in the halls!

DERECH ERETZ SKIT

(man is standing behind table covered in toys. A group of boys walk in. A lady and her daughter are at another table, looking at stuff.)

Boy 1: Hi, Mr. Loo. How are you today?

Mr. Loo: Thank you, very nice.

Boy 2: We're here to buy that new toy everyone is talking about.

Boy 3: Yeah, it's the super-ultra-mighty-magnetic-electronic-remote-o-matic flying submarine!

Mr. Loo: Oh, very nice, very nice.

Boy 2: So, do you have it in your store?

Mr. Loo: Not today, only tomorrow.

Boy 1: So we should come back tomorrow and you'll have it?

Mr. Loo: Not today, only tomorrow.

Boy 3: I'm not sure he understands us. Mr. Loo, will you be getting the flying submarine in?

Mr. Loo: Thank you, very nice.

Boy 2: Is that a yes or a no?

Mr. Loo: Yes. Yes. No. No. thank you, very nice.

Boy 2: Oh boy... um, maybe we should just go to another store.

Boy 3: Yeah. Let's go find it somewhere else. Thanks anyway, Mr. Loo.

We'll be back on Friday for our weekly bubble gum!

Lady: Those boys had such fine Middos. Mr. Loo wasn't very helpful, but they still showed הכרת הטוב to him. I'll call their Rebbe to let him know how impressed I am.

Lyrics: JEP-LI CD "I'm a Jew"

Tune: Didoh Bay

**Walking down the street outside,
Knowing who I am inside,
Let it be known to the world,
That I am a Jew.**

**I'm a Jew, I'm a Jew,
And I'm proud to be one too,
I always make a Kiddush Hashem.**

**Through my actions and my speech,
I act the way the Torah teaches,**

I am proud to make a Kiddush Hashem.

והלכת Ooh

בדרכיו Ooh

והלכת בדרכיו

והלכת בדרכיו

And you'll make a Kiddush Hashem!

Another thing to work on is to try to always be

On the lookout for a Chessed opportunity.

Look around to see if anyone could use assistance,

Then offer up a helping hand- go the extra distance!

CHESED SKIT

(lady walks in one side, carrying many bags. Girl walks in other side.)

Girl 1: Oh! You're carrying so many things. Can I take this for you?

(takes a box or bag)

Lady: Thank you! What a mitzvah girl. I've been schlepping all around town. Had to buy a new outfit for my grandson's bar mitzvah, and some wine and challah for Shabbos, and some..

Girl 1: I'll take this, too. And this.

Lady: ...extra kugel, because you never know who is going to show up last minute... (continues talking to self)

(another girl walks in)

Girl 1: Oh, hi, Raizel! Wow, you have a lot of books. Here, let me help you with some.

Girl 2: Thank you so much! I'm doing a research report on endangered species and the library just had so many books.

Girl 1: My pleasure! Chessed is my middle name. Oh! There's my brother. His backpack looks so heavy... Chaim, here. Let me help you. (puts on backpack and falls over backward.)

Girl 2: Um... I know you love doing Chessed but... I think maybe you need a little Chessed yourself! Let's help you up...

Middah means measurement because we must all choose

How strong to make this trait, how often it will be used

Too little's no good, but too much is also bad

Find the balance and you'll be on the right track.

Tune: Baby Beluga

I'm sitting on the couch, reading a great adventure book,

I hear a clatter and a crash and so I take a look,

My sister dropped a tray, there's markers rolling everywhere

I'll go help her- I won't stay here in my chair

TON opportunities

Oh, TON opportunities

Open up your eyes

See a friend in need,

Don't let the chance slip away

It's in school, and you're walking down the hall

You spot a paper crumpled by the wall,

Don't just leave it there for someone else to throw away,

Put it in the trash! Keep your school looking great.

TON opportunities...

Mom walks in from the grocery store

A baby on her hip and packages galore,

You're happy playing toys but you stop and then you say

"Mommy, let me help you put that stuff away."

TON opportunities...

**Patience is something that's really hard to show
When you want something now, but the going is slow.
It takes a lot of self control, but we all can say
I'll wait- there is no need to have that right away.**

PATIENCE SKIT

(kids standing on line)

Girl 1: Ugh! This line is SOOOO long. We're never going to get our turn to ride the roller coaster.

Boy 1: I know! By the time we get to the front, the amusement park will probably be closing.

Boy 2: I wish we could just budge the whole line.

Girl 2: I wish we had something to DO while we wait here.

Boy 2: You're right! There's no point in complaining. We have to wait if we want to ride. But I have an idea! Let's play a game while we wait. I'm going to Eretz Yisrael and I'm bringing... an alligator. Your turn!

Girl 2: hmm... okaaaay. I'm going to Eretz Yisrael and I'm bringing an alligator and a..... banana.

Boy 2: I'm going to Eretz Yisrael and I'm bringing an alligator, a banana, and a computer. (everyone slowly moves forward to show time passing)

Girl 1: Hey! We're next! Thank, Yehuda. It was much easier to patiently wait our turn while playing that game.

Tune and Lyrics: Marvelous Middos Machine #4

Please don't tell me later, I've got to have it now

It might as well be never, if I can't have it now

Please don't tell me soon, I need to have it now

Ill mamish burst like a balloon if I don't have it now

Well you gotta have paaaatience. Have patience.

Yes you gotta have pataaaaatience

With a little bit of patience life will have less irritations

**So try to have a little bit, yes why not have a little bit, I'm sure that
you can have a bit of**

(deep breath) Patience

Please don't say "רַק רַגַע" - I need to have it now

Don't tell me after supper- I've got to have it now

My friend Moishy has it so I must have it now

I might even try and grab it if I can't have it now

Well you gotta have paaaatience. Have patience.

Yes you gotta have pataaaaatience

Savlanut's a real good middah that will make your life much sweet-a
 So why not have a little bit, yes try to have a little bit, I'm sure that
 you can have a bit of.... (count to 8) Patience.

Speaking about תודות, we almost did forget
 Two words you must remember and never will regret
 Thank you shows appreciation for what someone did,
 A teacher, parent, stranger, or even a little kid!

HAKARAS HATOV SKIT

(girls are sitting on floor at a birthday party, opening gift bags)
 Birthday girl: Oh, wow! Thank you so much, Shira! Feel this guys- isn't
 it soft? (other girls "ooh" and "ahh") Thank you soooo much!
 Girl #2: Open mine next, k?
 Birthday girl: Oh my gosh! A gift card to Esther's Earrings and More!
 You're amazing! You guys are the best friends ever. (girls stand up)
 Thank you all so much for coming to my party.
 All girls: Thank YOU for inviting us!
 Birthday girl: Thank YOU all for giving me gifts.
 All girls: You're welcome!
 Birthday girl: Thanks for saying "You're welcome"
 Girl #3: Thanks for saying "thank you" for saying "you're welcome."
 Birthday girl: Thanks for saying thanks for saying thanks for... never
 mind. I'm just so happy you all could come!

Tune: L'chay Olamim

My mother packed me a delicious snack,
 And I want her to know I appreciate that.
 There are two little words that I will say,

ת-ו-ד-ה ר-ב-ה

Ohhh nananana ohhh
 הכרת הטוב
 Just say thank you
 I really appreciate all that you do
 הכרת הטוב
 Just a second of your day
 Makes a difference in a big way!

The bus driver drove me to school today,
 Safe and sound like he does each day.
 There are two little words that I will say,
 ת-ו-ד-ה ר-ב-ה

Ohhh nananana ohhh...

My sister helped clean up a mess,
 As sisters go, she is the best.
 There are two little words that I will say,
 ת-ו-ד-ה ר-ב-ה

Ohhh nananana ohhh...

We'd love to stay here all day, acting and singing songs,
 but the time has come for us to wrap up, this play is awfully long!
 We hope you all enjoyed, because we know that we sure did
 And hopefully you were inspired by the 2nd grade kids.