

VALUES CARD



SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (SEL)

Players show an understanding of right and wrong in terms of the rules of the game. Players show appropriate social behaviour on and off the field. For example:

- Obey the rules and do not cheat.
- Do not hurt anybody on purpose with your body or your words.
- Be helpful and encouraging to the coach and other players.

COACHING LANGUAGE

- Being a “good sport” is the name of our game.
- Play fair.
- Know right from wrong.



developing **INTEGRITY**

through sportsmanship

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FABLE

It was another glorious day in Africa. There was a feeling of great excitement among the animals. King Lion had divided them into two teams for a practice match. Elephant was captain of the blue team and Buffalo of the red team. Wise old Tortoise was the referee. King Lion plopped Tortoise down on top of a giant anthill so that he could see and hear everything that was going on. Tortoise blew the whistle for the players to take up their positions. Buffalo's team gathered in a huddle. Baboon whispered something and they ran onto the field, sniggering and chanting, "Red is best. Blue is poo. Red is best. Blue is poo." Elephant looked annoyed but didn't say anything. Cheetah stalked up beside him. "Red is dead," he said firmly, looking Buffalo straight in the eye. The blue team kicked off right into the hands of Springbok. In a flash Springbok side-stepped Elephant, Giraffe and Rhino and ran over the try line. Red were up five points. "Red is best! Blue is poo!" shouted Baboon, turning somersaults. Wise old Tortoise watched and listened. He blew the whistle for the kick-off again. This time Giraffe secured the ball for the blue team and started driving forward at pace. Buffalo caught him and, thinking that Tortoise couldn't see, poked him hard in the ribs with his horns. "Ouch!" cried Giraffe, dropping the ball. Buffalo quickly grabbed it and ran in another try for the red team. "Hey, you cheated!" shouted Giraffe. Elephant called his team together. "Red is dead!" they shouted angrily. Wise old Tortoise watched and listened. "Bbbbbbbbrrrrrrrppppppp!" he blew his whistle for the third time. Elephant got the ball for the blue team and went trumpeting down the field. Cheetah was on the wing, running like the wind. Elephant passed the ball ... but it floated forward into Cheetah's hands as he dived over the try line. "Try!" he screamed in triumph. "No try!" shouted Buffalo.

"You cheated! That was a forward pass." "No, it wasn't. You cheated when you poked Giraffe in the ribs!" Cheetah shouted back. Suddenly all the animals were fighting and arguing. Wise old Tortoise had seen and heard enough. He blew his whistle and called the animals to him. "It seems to me," he said, stretching his old neck out of his shell, "the animals of Africa must learn that being a 'good sport' is the name of our game." The animals looked confused, so wise old Tortoise continued, "Everyone wants to win, but someone must always lose. When we play hard but fair, like a good sport, then everyone comes off the field with that happy, winning feeling." The animals nodded in agreement. "So," continued Tortoise with a twinkle in his eye, "today the winning team will be the team that shows me they know right from wrong. It will be the team that does not cheat and hurt other players with their words or actions. It will be the team that plays with the most heart _ the team that plays hard and fair. It will be the team that is helpful and encouraging to everyone, including their own teammates, the opposition, King Lion and even me...the referee.

Being a "good sport" is the name of our game.

