

The Sharing Circle

Written by Theresa "Corky" Larsen-Jonasson

Illustrated by Jessika Von Innerebner

The Sharing Circle follows the fox-friends Morning Star and River as they learn to resolve conflicts using traditional knowledge.

Teacher Tip: This book can be used at the beginning of the school year to establish how your students should behave during circle or carpet time. It can be used throughout to remind students to respect and listen to one another in the classroom and outside.

Pre-reading questions:

- How do we listen when we join our friends for circle time?
- How do you feel when your friends aren't listening to you?
- Can you show me what good listening looks like?
- What do you do when you disagree with someone?
- Have you ever gotten into an argument with a friend? How did you make it right?

Post-reading questions:

- Why did the other animals take sides when their friends argued? How did it make them feel about their friendships?
- How Morning Star and River become friends again?
- How can adults like Kokom help us when we can't get along?
- Do you think that we should add some of these ideas into our class circle?
- How can we make our class circle welcoming for our friends?

Group activities:

1. Go for a nature walk with your class to find a talking stick to decorate together and use during circle time
2. Have your own sharing circle time when students can reflect on what they have learned or done during the week
3. Invite older students to work on an inclusion and antibullying campaign within your school community
4. Research and explore the Cree and Metis communities that the author belongs to
5. Combine this lesson with a science activity on the water cycle

The following worksheet can be completed by students in grades 1-3 or can be used as questions in circle time.

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Sharing Circle

What can you do when you upset a friend?

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How can sharing your feelings help make you feel better?

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Draw a time where you and a friend made up.

