

## **Cool Tool: Personal Responsibility on Field Trips**

<b>School Wide Expectation:</b>	All
<b>Setting:</b>	Outside and Community
<b>Lesson Focus:</b>	You are responsible for your actions

### **Purpose of the Lesson**

1. To remind students of expected behavior while on a field trip
2. To discuss why behavior in a public place has a slightly different set of requirements than school
3. To demonstrate what happens when wise choices are not made

**SEL standard(s) met: 2A3b, 2D3b**

### **Discussion Points**

These discussion questions can be used for discussion purposes, role-plays, for writing prompts, or for topics of debate to teach appropriate ways to argue a point.

1. ***“Friday is going to be SO cool! I can’t wait to go to...”***

Field trips can be a lot of fun, when everyone realizes that they have a responsibility to act appropriately.

2. ***“Aw, c’mon. Can’t we just scrap the lecture?”***

It’s not a lecture...it’s a reminder! It’s easy to get caught up in the fun. When you’re excited (and we know you are!), it’s easy to slip into behavior that isn’t respectful of other people. We WANT you to have a good time, but we want you to show other people that you are proud of yourself, your achievements, and that you are proud to be a Lukancic student! You show that pride (or lack of it) through your choices and action.

3. ***“Well, okay. I guess that’s not a lecture. What do you want us to do? (sigh, insert eye roll)”***

(Ignore sigh and eye roll) Let’s ask you...what do you think we expect?

4. ***“Follow directions. Be quiet, don’t screech, and yell. Don’t cause trouble. Don’t break the bus rules. Don’t shove each other around. Don’t take stuff that doesn’t belong to us. Anything else? ”***

While those are all valid ideas, we also want two things: that other people see Elm students as respectful of people around them, and that Elm students can have a good time without breaking the rules. If you’re to stay with a chaperone, do so, and treat the chaperone with respect and kindness. If you’re to check in a particular time or place, do so. If you are asked to change your behavior (to stop doing something, or start doing something), do so without argument. Yelling, screaming and screeching at each other and physical horseplay just make other people think you’re little kids with no self-control. We know better! You’re middle schoolers, and the field trip celebrates the end of another year for you, and you’re excited. Other people don’t care about that...they just see a bunch of poorly behaved kids. So...show them up! Prove to them that middle school kids know how to have fun in public without bothering anyone else!

5. ***“I guess that’s not so bad. So listen to the adults, follow the directions, and be polite and respectful. I already do all those things...at least most of the time. LOL.”***

We know that, which is why we just have to remind you...not teach you.

### **Reinforcement Activities**

1. What other behaviors do you specifically expect for your grade level field trip? Be sure to tell the students clearly. They aren’t mind readers, and they simply may not know what to do! Tell them what you want, and brainstorm with them why that is important.
2. Role play someone being annoyed by a group of students who are on a field trip...for example, a bunch of loud and shouting kids who scare a little baby who starts to wail...or bumping into an elderly person because the students aren’t aware of the people around them.
3. Role-play examples of positive field trip behavior. Role-play negative behaviors. Have students point out what is right and what is wrong.