


Lola and Tattletale Zeke Curriculum Guide



By Marcia Goldman



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Lola and Tattletale Zeke by Marcia Goldman is the latest addition to the charming Lola, the Therapy Dog series. In this book we meet Lola's "little" brother Zeke, who really likes to tattle on Lola. All this tattling make Lola very upset. Children will be delighted by how Lola and Zeke learn to work things out after Isabel the cat decides to join the tattle train. This book helps children understand what tattling is and how it makes other's feel.

Standard topics:

What does it mean to tattle?
Problem solving
Conflict Resolution

Objectives:

Connect with literature
Teaching what is considered tattling verses when it is important to tell.
Conflict resolution: Help children understand when it is important to tell an adult, when to solve the problem independently and when to walk away.
Teaching Compassion.

Background Information:

Why do children tattle? Learning the difference between telling an adult about a situation and tattling to get someone in trouble can be a confusing concept for many children.

Children tattle for various reasons.

- The most common reason preschool children tattle is a desire to follow the rules and to make sure that everyone around them is following the rules.
- Children often tattle because they haven't developed the emotional and social skills they need to solve their own conflicts.
- Teaching children compassion for others is one of the first steps in social development. Children will sometimes think that if they point out that someone else broke the rules the adults will notice that they are behaving appropriately.
- Children will also use tattling to "one-up" another child who is bothering them. Children need to learn how to handle conflict resolution without adult intervention.
- For students who seem to be seeking your attention through tattling, consider giving them a unique responsibility in the classroom, showcase their talents when appropriate, or write them a note once in a while to let them know you've noticed their positive efforts.
- Use the book *Lola and Tattletale Zeke* along with this discussion and activity guide to explore the concepts of tattling, compassion and conflict resolution.



Discussion Questions:

What does Zeke do to make Lola mad? OR
What did Zeke do to get Lola in trouble?

What could Zeke do when Lola left her bear
outside?

Does Lola need to tell on Zeke when he bent
the page of his book?

Did Zeke break his toy on purpose? What
made Zeke sad?

Why did Isabel tell on Zeke? What do you
think Isabel felt?

What is the difference between making a
mistake and doing something on purpose?

Can you think of something you have done
that was a mistake?

What is the difference between telling about
and telling on someone?

What does it mean when you tattletale?

How does it feel when someone tattles on
you?

Have you ever tattled on someone? Why?

Are there times that you need to tell an
adult?





Activities:

Role Playing: Have the students act out different situations where someone may tattle. Talk about whether the situation is a time to tell an adult or whether telling would be “tattling”. Act out and talk about how tattling makes the other child feel. To extend the activity add in some situations where the student should walk away, where the students should resolve the problem on their own and where adult help really is required.

Have the students do the *“When is it Tattling”* [coloring page](#). Talk about what strategies they should use to decide whether or not to tell an adult.

Make a Tattle Notebook: Have a “Tattle Book” in the classroom or at home. Whenever a child needs to tattle, and you have assessed that there is no danger, have the child who is tattling draw or write about it in the book. At the end of the week look at the book with the children and talk about how they could have solved the problem.

Tattle Journal Page: Have the children write and draw about how it felt when someone tattled on them. Explore when children should tell an adult and get help. Have young children dictate the words they want on their [journal page](#).

Put it in a Box: Take two boxes and label one “keeping someone safe” and the other “getting someone in trouble.” Brainstorm different situations and write them down on cards. Have the children put them in the correct box.

Problem Solving Class Meeting: Have a meeting where the topic is tattling. Talk about when the students should get help, when they should “talk it out” together and when they should just let it go. [Class Meeting Worksheet](#).

Coloring Pages: Give the students the [coloring pages](#). Talk about what Lola did. Was it an accident? Should Zeke tattle on Lola? What would the students do? Have them draw a picture of what they would do and how it feels when someone tattles on them.

Visual Supports: Use these [visual supports](#) to help build language skills and communication. Have the students point to the visual supports to answer questions.



Resources:

[How to Manage Tattling](#)

Teaching Empathy:

[Social Skills Tips and Strategies](#)

Conflict Management:

[Kelso's Choice Free Fun](#)

[Conflict Resolution Techniques from Play works](#)

[10 Lessons for Teaching Conflict Resolution Skills](#)

Learn more about Lola:

[Marcia Goldman's author page](#)

[Lola on Facebook](#)

[All About Lola:](#)

<http://mosswoodconnections.com/lola-the-therapy-dog/>

[Creston Books](#)



About the Author:

Marcia Goldman has her Master's Degree in Special Education and has spent the last 25 years focusing on providing therapeutic based programs for children with autism and their families. She is the author of *Lola Goes to Work*, *Lola Goes to the Doctor* and *Lola and Tattletale Zeke*.

Lola is a five-pound Yorkshire terrier who lives in California with her adoring owners. She is a proudly certified therapy dog who makes weekly visits to elder care centers, bookstores, and classrooms. Lola, her brother Zeke, and cat cousin, Isabelle happily participate in the making of her books. She hopes you enjoy reading them!

