

Date: _____

Dear Parent(s):

In our next lesson, we will be learning about the Short Conversation.

We have many Short Conversations in a day. Think of the last time you were running errands. Likely while at the supermarket, you took the time to discuss the weather with the cashier. At the doctor's office, you may have asked the receptionist about her new job assignment and later that day, you may have taken a minute in the mall to ask your friend how the family was doing. When you returned home, you may have called your partner to confirm where to have dinner before going to the movies.

In Short Conversations, the questions and comments are often predictable and the topics are limited to general information (i.e. the weather, current events, etc.). Though these conversations may seem insignificant, our skill level with them will often define how colleagues, friends, family and people within the community perceive us.

For example, consider the following situation:

At the grocery store, you are engaged in what you think will be a Short Conversation with the clerk as you wait for your food to be scanned and purchased. Rather than keeping the social banter light and predictable, the clerk starts to discuss personal family issues. This situation is likely to feel awkward and uncomfortable because it is unexpected and unpredictable

As skilled conversationalists, we know how to use the Short Conversation effectively. In this lesson, we will have the opportunity to teach the children to do the same.

HOME SUGGESTION:

Ask your child to tell you three places where a Short Conversation can be used. Take the time to talk with your child about the Short Conversations that you have with others throughout your daily living (i.e. talking to the cashier, greeting a friend in the mall).

Additional Suggestions:

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,