



## Curriculum Guide

A curriculum guide  
for all the little stinkers  
interested in being Leaders of Good!

### Teachers/Parents/Caregivers:

Use this guide to introduce the three award-winning StinkyKids adventure stories to your students & children.

### ***StinkyKids and the Runaway Scissors* – 2011 Silver Mom’s Choice Award Winner**

**Britt’s Secret** - recommended for preschool and early elementary school students

Britt has a secret that she is afraid of telling her parents, because she doesn’t want to miss her play date with her friends.

Revisit the first page of *StinkyKids and the Runaway Scissors* and discuss with your students how Britt makes the decision to keep her secret to herself. Ask your students to define the word secret.

Next, each child should think of a secret he or she was afraid to share and write this secret on a Popsicle stick. Collect the Popsicle sticks and place them in a mason jar. Pull out one stick at a time and share aloud the secret. Have kids make predictions about what the student did in his or her situation to be a Leader of Good.

This activity allows students to share anonymously in a caring environment.

**Ice & Bubble Gum Experiment** – recommended for early elementary school students

Hannah thought that peanut butter and ice cubes would help get the gum out of Britt’s hair. Explain to your students that Hannah was acting like a scientist by making predictions and conducting an experiment on Britt’s hair.

Pass out a sheet of paper, colored pencils and one piece of bubble gum. Have a container of ice cubes in a cooler nearby. Students should draw a prediction of what happens to chewing gum when it touches ice.



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**Ice & Bubble Gum Experiment** – recommended for early elementary school students (continued)

Next, ask the students to draw the materials they are using for the experiment. Each student should chew a piece of bubble gum and place it back on the open gum wrapper. Pass out ice cubes and have the students put their ice cube on top of the gum.

As they watch what happens, they should draw what they see. Explain that they are making observations. When the ice melts, discuss the students' predictions and the actual outcome. (*Hint: to make ice melt faster conduct experiment outside.*)

Magnifying glasses really help students feel like scientists, so feel free to pass these out if you have some in your classroom.

**Practice with Scissors** – recommended for preschool students

Max uses scissors from his doctor kit to cut the gum out of Britt's hair.

Discuss acceptable times and uses for scissors with your students. Ask them if they or a friend should attempt to cut their hair?

Pass out StinkyKids coloring pages (<http://stinkykids.com/meet-the-stinkykids/coloring-pages/>) and have students practice with scissors by cutting out their favorite StinkyKid. But remember, don't cut their hair!! Color the StinkyKids characters and glue them to a colored piece of construction paper to take home to show their parents their new cutting skills.

Scissors are an excellent way to develop fine motor skills for children.



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### ***StinkyKids See a Full Moon -*** 2012 Silver Mom's Choice Award Winner

**Cookie Crumbs Cooking** - recommended for preschool and early elementary school students

The StinkyKids make up their own recipes using cookie crumbs. Set up a table where students can go "grocery shopping" in your classroom to gather supplies to make their own recipes.

On the table include cookie crumbs, cool whip, chocolate pudding, raisins, gummy worms and any other yummy ingredients you know your students will love. Have students bring a spoon and Dixie cup to the grocery-shopping table to collect their ingredients. Pass out a note card for students to record their recipes. Enjoy eating the creations.

For a math connection, chart the ingredients used by each student in the class.

**Hannah's House of Cards** - recommended for preschool and early elementary school students

In this adventure, Hannah has been working on her house of cards all day and is very proud of her creation.

Bring decks of cards to school. Working in pairs, have students build with cards just like Hannah did in the story.

Before you begin, ask students to establish some rules for building with cards.

Questions to help guide the rules discussions:

1. How should we walk through the room to avoid knocking down a partner's building?
2. What happens during clean-up time?
3. If we accidentally knock over someone's tower, how can we help him or her feel better?



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Building with partners helps foster team building and socialization skills. Have fun!

**Flashlight Stories** – recommended for early elementary school students

In the story, the StinkyKids are enjoying a nighttime play date while playing flashlight hide-n-seek.

Bring a flashlight and gather the students in a circle. Turn the lights off in the classroom and tell the students a spooky story. Allow the students to share stories one at a time. Only the person holding the flashlight has permission to share. Pass the flashlight in order to speak.

Before you begin, set parameters for sharing and ask students to help weigh-in on topics that are too scary to share.

**Solar System Story Book** – recommended for preschool and kindergarten students

Britt Menzies, the award-winning author of the StinkyKids series, drew her own solar system book to teach children about the planets in our solar system. **(Note: the book is included as an added bonus in the back of the *StinkyKids See a Full Moon* adventure story)**

Click on the link [www.raventreepress.com](http://www.raventreepress.com) to find free printouts, so each child can create his or her own solar system storybook.



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### **StinkyKids Have a Heart –**

New release

**Princess Pink Heart & Monster Green Slime** – recommended for preschool and early elementary school students

Jen gets really mad at Britt because Britt does not want to eat the same ice cream flavor as Jen.

Create a chart on the board and label one side “Princess Pink Heart” and the other side “Monster Green Slime.” Ask the students to brainstorm about why Jen would want her friend to eat the same ice cream flavor.

Then in the opposite column, brainstorm about why Britt should get the ice cream flavor she wanted, even if it meant that her friend, Jen, would end up getting mad. At the bottom of the chart list why it is important for students to listen to their heart.

**Bully Awareness** – recommended for preschool and early elementary school students

In this story, StinkyKid Britt feels bullied by her BFF Jen. To make things worse, none of Britt’s other little stinker friends stick up for her and, instead, leave her alone with a hurt heart.

Ask students to draw a picture of a time they were being bullied. Under their picture, they should write captions describing their event. (Preschoolers can describe the event to their teachers and have help with the writing.)

In a circle, have each child share his or her story about being bullied and how it made him or her feel. Emphasize that no child has the right to bully another child.

Read the Letter from the Author at the end of the story in which she shares her experience of being bullied.



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**Bully Awareness** – recommended for preschool and early elementary school students (continued)

Ask the students to think about how they can be a Leader of Good when they see someone else being bullied. Make sure that each child understands where to go for help if they are being bullied at home, at school, on the playground, etc. **(Note: for this activity you may want to include the school's counselor to facilitate the conversations and lessons.)**

**Leader of Good** – recommended for preschool and early elementary school students.

Each of the StinkyKids stories emphasize the message that kids should work towards being a Leader of Good.

Ask your students to talk about this message by using the following questions:

1. What does it mean to be a Leader of Good?
2. How can we learn from our mistakes?
3. When is it a good time to be a leader in your classroom?
4. Give an example of a time you had to be a leader.

Write down comments your students make during this discussion on a poster and display in your classroom. These comments are also great to include in your classroom newsletter.

**Which StinkyKid Are You?** – recommended for preschool and early elementary school students

Explain how each of us has a little stinker inside of us that sometimes makes mistakes, but it's the act of making mistakes that allows us to learn. In order to be a Leader of Good, we have to allow ourselves the room to learn from our errors.

Turn to the last two pages in the book and read the name of each StinkyKid and their Leader of Good quality. Have printouts of each StinkyKid

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(<http://stinkykids.com/category/stinkykids-bios/>) and markers ready to pass out.

**Which StinkyKid Are You?** – recommended for preschool and early elementary school students (continued)

Ask the students to pick out which StinkyKid they think they are most like and why? Students should color in this StinkyKid and older students should write a paragraph about why they are similar to their StinkyKid character. (<http://stinkykids.com/meet-the-stinkykids/coloring-pages/>) Use this link for access to all of the StinkyKids coloring pages to use for this activity and more.

**Written By:**

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