

***Activity: Types of Communications***

**Types of Communications**

*Communication skills are important to everyone - they are how we* ***give*** *and* ***receive*** *information and convey our ideas and opinions with those around us.*

Communication comes in many forms:

 • verbal

 • aural

 • non-verbal

 • written

 • visual

**Provide 2 examples for each type of communication:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Example #1 | Example #2 |
| **Verbal** |  |  |
| **Aural** |  |  |
| **Non-Verbal** |  |  |
| **Written** |  |  |
| **Visual** |  |  |

**The Power of Words**

*“You have the power to speak or not to speak. You have the power to choose what you say and to whom you speak, so be careful and think about the consequences of your words. You must take responsibility for them. Remember that the words that come out of your mouth are yours.”*

**Read the following story:**

Anthony and Thomas are locking their bicycles one morning. They don’t see Mike sitting on the grass nearby. Anthony says to Thomas, “You want to do something after school today?” “I sort of told Mike I’d do something with him,” says Thomas. “Mike? He’s such a jerk,” says Anthony. “And he dresses like such a dork!” “Oh yeah?” says Thomas. “Well, I better be going. Bye!” Later that day in the gym, Anthony waves and runs up to talk to Mike. But Mike walks away, pretending not to see him. “What’s wrong with him?” Anthony says loudly. “What a jerk!”

**Write down your thoughts to the following questions:**

* Why do you think Mike avoids Anthony in the gym?
* Suppose you were in the gym and saw what happened between Mike and Anthony. Would you side with Anthony? Why or why not?
* Who is responsible for what happened in the gym—Mike or Anthony? Why?
* What were the consequences of Anthony’s words in the beginning of the story? What about his words in the gym?
* Do you think Anthony realized the power of his words? Explain your answer.
* What about Thomas? How do you think he handled himself?
* What do you think would have happened if Thomas had defended Mike?

**Listen Up!**

A man and his son are in a car accident. They are taken to a hospital where the man is kept in the intensive care unit. As his son is wheeled into the operating room, the surgeon walks in and says, “I can’t operate on this boy. He’s my son!” How can this be?

*It takes at least two people for communication to happen. One person sends a message, and another receives it.*

**Speaker + Listener = Communication**

**Improving Your Listening Skills**

*Provide an example for each type of listening skill*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Skill** | **Example of Using Skill** |
| Focus |  |
| Confirm |  |
| Respond |  |