

February: Cooperation – Working together to do more than you can do alone

SAY IT: This week, we introduced a brand new Big Idea. It just so happens to be a value that is a lot of fun to learn about together. So grab your whole family and work together to learn this Big Idea and its definition!

Together, your family will make a team. First things first, every great team has a great team name. So put your heads together and come up with a team name.

Now that you have your team name, nominate a team scribe to write down the definition of the value cooperation: “Working together to do more than you can do alone.” Then, come up with a cheer, chant or even a theme song centered around this definition. Make sure to include motions, dance moves and even props. Get creative and have fun cooperating to come up with a family chant you never could have created all on your own!

KNOW IT: Dig a little deeper this week with these discussion starters about cooperation:

- What is something you have been a part of that was much cooler and bigger than it ever could have been if you had tried to do it on your own?
- How does our family work together to take care of each other?
- Why is it important for our family to work together?
- Have you ever been a part of a group or a team that came together just to help other people? How did it feel being part of a team like that, and what did you accomplish together?
- What is something we as a family can do together to brighten our neighbors’ day? (Now plan a time to do it!)

SEE IT: Now that you know what we say cooperation means, and you know what cooperation means to you, read below to SEE just how cool cooperation can be:

A flash mob is a fun way to bring a lot of people together. A large group of people agree to meet up at a public

place, like a subway station or a popular park. In the middle of the regular hustle and bustle of the public spot, music will start, and one by one, the people in the flash mob will start to dance. Eventually the group grows so big that everyone in the area will stop and watch the mob perform their organized dance. Some groups even sing, and sometimes the mob is organized for a marriage proposal, but whatever the group does, it is amazing to watch so many people come together to do something that big.

Spend a few minutes watching really cool flash mob videos as a family. If you don’t know where to start, we suggest “Historic Flashmob in Antwerp Station Do, Re, Mi”, “Michael Jackson Dance Tribute Stockholm”, or check out a couple different kinds of flash mobs called “Som Sabadell Flashmob - Banco Sabadell” and “Frozen Grand Central” (not like the movie about the two sisters!)

BE IT: Spend some time putting cooperation into practice this month.

How much allowance do you get? How much do you spend on your daily coffee fix? How many pennies and nickels have you collected on your bedside table? Ask yourselves these questions as a family and see if you can work together to purchase something from a catalog of items from an organization that helps those in need (Samaritan’s Purse, the Water Project or the Red Cross are some examples).

Go the extra mile and put your heads together as a family to come up with some ways to encourage your friends, co-workers, and community to make a difference as well. The more people who work together, the more you will be able to accomplish!