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SCRIPTS FOR  
SCHOOLS

## **The Sign-Up!**

**A Puppet Play Script For One  
Puppeteer and Two Hand Puppets**

**Theme: Building Character  
For Students 4-9 Years Old**

**By  
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**NOTE:** This puppet play has been written for two puppets and one puppeteer. A traditional hand puppet stage (where the puppeteer is behind, below, and hidden from view) should be used. The puppets can be any type you wish (people, animals, etc.) as long as they appeal to primary grade students. The character-building information included in the script was found on the Character Counts web site at: [http://charactercounts.org/pdf/Exercising-Character/Exer-Char\\_04-06-trustworthiness.pdf](http://charactercounts.org/pdf/Exercising-Character/Exer-Char_04-06-trustworthiness.pdf) and [http://charactercounts.org/pdf/Exercising-Character/Exer-Char\\_06-09-responsibility.pdf](http://charactercounts.org/pdf/Exercising-Character/Exer-Char_06-09-responsibility.pdf) The information was found in the free lesson plan and activity sheet section and recommended for children from 4 to 9 years in age.

**SYNOPSIS:** During recess, two puppets set up tables near the principal's office and attempt to sign students up for two different teams: The DO TEAM and The DON'T TEAM. Each puppet wants to get the most sign-ups and thinks his/her team is better and totally different from the other. In the end, it is the puppeteer who convinces them that their teams aren't really so different after all! The puppets and puppeteer are "one and the same" and "all in this together" and symbolize family, school, team, community, county, and our world.

**SIGNS:** The DO TEAM!, The DON'T TEAM!, HONESTY, TRUSTWORTHY, INTEGRITY, PROMISES, LOYALTY, SAME TEAM. **PROPS:** Long scroll of paper, large pencil, blue and white crepe paper pom-pom, baseball cap/DON'T, large button or badge/DO, two pairs of wild sunglasses. **SOUND:** School bell ringing.

(Sound of a school bell ringing).

(Loud singing is heard from below. Puppet 1 pops up holding a large sign that says: "The DO TEAM!" Puppet 1 continues singing loudly, then stops when he notices the audience).

PUPPET 1: Oh, wow! Hi! I didn't know all of you were out here. I hope you haven't been waiting long. Just let me get my team sign-up table ready and I'll be right with you.

(Puppet 1 sets sign in holder at Stage Right so it can be clearly seen by audience).

PUPPET 1: That's us folks. Once you sign up with me, we'll all be on the DO TEAM! Now, am I in the right place? Yeah. I was told to put my sign-up table right across the hall from Mr/Mrs (principal's name) office door during recess. (Looking out into audience) Well, it's recess time and there's the door, so this must be the place. OK. Now I'd better go get some paper.

(Puppet 1 sings loudly again and disappears below. Loud singing continues to be heard as Puppet 2 enters and is seen on opposite side of the stage, Stage Left. Puppet 2 carries a large sign that says: "The DON'T TEAM!")

PUPPET 2: What was that racket I just heard? Sounds like somebody stepped on my cat's tail!

(Puppet 2 sets sign in another holder at Stage Left so it can be clearly seen by audience).

PUPPET 2: Hi everybody! Am I in the right place? I was told to put my sign-up table right down the hall from Mr/Mrs (principal's name) office at recess time, so this must be right. I guess you're all waiting to sign up for the DON'T TEAM. I need lots of people to sign up for the DON'T TEAM! You all look perfect. Don't leave. I'll be right back with a pencil.

(Puppet 2 disappears as Puppet 1 pops up holding a scroll of paper).

PUPPET 1: Hope I've got enough paper for all the names.

(Puppet 1 holds on to top of paper and lets the scroll go. The paper unrolls all the way down the front of the puppet stage and reaches the floor below. Puppet 1 looks down).

PUPPET 1: Yeah, that should do it. (Clears throat, then speaks loudly): A-hem! Ladies and gentlemen! Attention please. Calling all GOOD PEOPLE! Hey, hey, I'm right over here. It's time for all GOOD PEOPLE to sign-up for the DO TEAM!

(Puppet 2 pops up from opposite side of the stage holding a large pencil. Puppet 1 pulls the long scroll of paper back up to the stage and drapes it over the edge of the puppet stage).

PUPPET 2: Good people? Good people? What are you talking about?

PUPPET 1: Excuse me, but I'm here on official business. Mr/Mrs (teacher's name) told me to find a lot of GOOD PEOPLE and sign them up for the DO TEAM. What are *YOU* doing here?

PUPPER 2: Ha! Well excuse *me*, but I'm here on official business too. Mr/Mrs (another teacher's name) told me to set up a table and ask people to sign up for the DON'T TEAM.

PUPPET 1: (To audience). Oh, oh, another team! I'd better get to work. I'll get my sign-up sheet filled with names before this so-called DON'T TEAM even gets started. I was here first and the early bird gets the worm, ya know.

(Loudly): Step right up! Calling all GOOD PEOPLE! I'm looking for GOOD PEOPLE to sign-up for the DO TEAM!

PUPPET 2: So, what's this "good people" stuff? What exactly does that mean?

PUPPET 1: GOOD PEOPLE are honest people! Here, I'll show you.

(As Puppet 1 disappears below, taking paper scroll along. Puppet 2 drops pencil and speaks)

PUPPET 2: Hey! What's going on here? (To audience): Where'd he go?

(Puppet 1 quickly reappears with another sign that says):

## **HONESTY**

PUPPET 1: This says it all. Good people...

Tell the truth.

They tell all the truth.

They say what they mean.

They keep their promises.

And, if they find something, they return it to the owner!

So, that's what good people *do* and that's why I want to sign them up for the DO TEAM!

(Puppet 1 drops sign below).

PUPPET 2: No, no. You've got it all wrong. GOOD PEOPLE belong on the DON'T TEAM.

Puppet 2 reaches down and quickly pulls up another sign that says:

## **TRUSTWORTHY**

PUPPET 2: This is the sign that says it all. Good people are trustworthy. They...

*Don't* tell lies.

*Don't* trick other people by telling only part of the truth.

*Don't* say they'll do something without really doing it.

*Don't* cheat and don't steal!

(Puppet 2 drops sign below).

PUPPET 1: Hummmm. (To audience): It sounds like I've got some competition here. I want the DO TEAM to win by getting the most sign-ups, but this guy (girl) is invading my territory. I'd better think of a way to get my sign-ups done fast. I need to attract some attention!

(Puppet 1 disappears).

PUPPET 2: Oh, oh! Now where has he (she) gone? I don't want to get behind in the sign-up department. I need to attract some attention too. I'd better think of something!

(Puppet 2 disappears as Puppet 1 pops up. Puppet 1 holds a blue and white crepe paper pom-pom and shakes it wildly. The crepe paper ribbons flip back and forth over the puppet's head).

PUPPET 1: These are the DO TEAM colors!

(Puppet 1 begins to loudly cheer).

Blue and white is always right,  
Do Team, fight, fight!

(To audience): Let's hear it everyone! Help me with another cheer...

Give me a "D"

(Audience): "D"

PUPPET 1: Give me an "O"

(Audience): "O"

PUPPET 1: What does it spell?

(Audience): DO!

PUPPET 1: Say it again...

(Audience): DO!

Blue and white is always true,  
DO TEAM, we'll fight for you!

(Puppet 1 looks to the left, then to the right, then up and down).

PUPPET 1: Oops, guess that didn't work. I don't see anybody coming to sign up. I'd better try something different.

Attention, attention! Come one, come all. Sign up for the DO TEAM. I'm looking for teammates with...

(Puppet 1 drops pom-pom and rises with a sign that says:

## **INTEGRITY**

(Puppet 2 peeks head up to look at sign, then slowly comes all the way up on opposite side of stage).

PUPPET 2: Integrity? So what's that supposed to mean?

PUPPET 1: I'm looking for good people with integrity! People with integrity are...

Brave - because they're always trying to do and say the right things. And they are strong. They try to do the right thing, even when people want them to do bad things.

I'm looking for people who try to be good - all the time!

That's what they *do* and that's why they should sign up for the DO TEAM.

PUPPET 2: Oh boy, how wrong can a person be? I'm sorry, but you really do not have a clue about how things work. People with integrity belong on the DON'T TEAM because they...

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