

Sean Daigle, 8th Grade, St. Francis/Holy Ghost School

Respect is a trait we should all have. I think it means to show consideration or honor for someone. Respecting someone means that you care about them and how they think and feel. Being concerned about them and what happens to them is very important.

In school, respect should be shown to both the teachers and to the students. One way is to carefully pay attention when the teacher is speaking and to try and understand what they teach and what they mean. Respecting a teacher means listening the first time and not making the teacher repeat. It means honoring them by doing what they say and doing what they want, when they want it. Respecting other students is also important. One can show respect to fellow students by paying attention to them, by caring about what is important to them, by helping them when they are stuck on a problem, and by letting them in front of you in line.

Respect at home means doing almost everything your parents say and by politely asking them to clarify when you do not understand rather than skipping what you do not comprehend. It means that you do what you are supposed to do right away rather than the next day or not at all. Respect means helping your parents when they need it or ask for help rather than playing the video game louder or longer. Going to bed when they say, doing your homework without complaining, and not talking back are very big ways to show respect at home.

The teacher could show respect by calling on each student and listening to what each one has to say. They show respect when they realize each student has their own strengths and weaknesses, and they work with each accordingly. A great teacher shows the ultimate respect when they have a student with a concern, they identify it, and work with that one special child to correct the problem. Teachers must be specifically and carefully trained because the ones I have had have been very respectful of the students and each other.

The trait of respect is very important in everyday life. Respect means that you treat each other very well, just as you would like to be treated by others. If we were all interested and concerned with each other, there would be no fighting and no war and no violence. Each person would be as valuable as the next. I think respect is one of the top traits of all to develop for ourselves and to remember to use every day of our lives.