

A LifeStories for Kids™ Book



Respect

ANANSI and the TURTLE



Storyteller - Donna Washington

Illustrated by - Laura Harris Brightwood, LCSW

ABOUT the STORYTELLER



Anthony Gale Photography

Donna Washington is a beloved author and renowned storyteller, who's been entertaining audiences of all ages for more than a decade. Her dynamic vocal expression and physical portrayal of the tale transports listeners into the magic of the story. Donna's work has gained recognition through several awards including a 2006 Storytelling World Award Winner, 2005 iParenting Media Excellent Product Award, and a 2005 Parents' Choice Silver Honor Award.



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How to use this book with kids!

This book is a transcription of a tale told by award winning storyteller Donna Washington. The DVD included with this book contains Donna's version of the classic African tale, *Anansi and the Turtle*, told before a lively children's audience. By both watching the video and discussing the story together you can significantly enhance a child's opportunity to learn the lessons presented. At the end of this book, there are "Questions and Answers" and "Quick Tips" to help you further reinforce skills and concepts with children.

The map below contains a sequence of questions that help a child explore Anansi and the Turtle's lesson for being respectful.



Thinking About The Story



STEP 1 - Ask the child to re-tell the story to you.

This is an easy and concrete way to start the discussion.

STEP 2 - Ask the child to identify how different characters felt.

This helps a child learn to identify different feelings.

STEP 3 - Ask the child to identify how characters handled their feelings.

This helps a child connect feelings to behavior.

STEP 4 - Ask the child what else the characters could do.

This helps a child understand that people have choices about what they do with their feelings.

Help your child take what they have learned and apply it to themselves. This is called *internal reflection*. Research has shown that this is a key step in helping a child change behavior and develop character traits.



X **STEP 5** - Ask the child if he ever experienced a feeling like the character in the story.

This helps a child personalize the story.

X **STEP 6** - Ask the child what he did about that feeling.

This helps connect a child's own behavior to feelings; a key social skill.

X **STEP 7** - Last, ask the child what else he could do if in a similar situation in the future.

This helps a child see that he has choices of how to act and react to feelings.



Thinking About Myself

chapter one



This story is about a spider who comes from West Africa in Ghana. He is Anansi the Spider. There are two things he likes to do; play tricks on people and eat. If he can do both at the same time, he's really happy. But, sometimes, his tricks backfire. This is one of those stories.

One day, Anansi the Spider, was sitting down to a great big table covered all over with good things to eat. He



rolled up his sleeves. He got ready to dig in when he heard a knock at his door. **Pop, pop, pop.**

He opened the door, **creeeek**. Outside, there was a turtle. The turtle said, "Hello Anansi, I'm traveling very far away from home. Can I come in and have some supper?"

When someone stops by and asks if they can have supper, it is really rude for you to tell them to go away, especially since there were no restaurants or hotels or anything in this part of Africa. But, Anansi did not want to share his food with the turtle.

He said, "Uuuuhhh," and he got an idea. "Turtle, your hands are so dirty from your long walk. Go down to the river and wash them and then, you can come back and eat."

The turtle said, "Ok." And, the turtle went down to the river.



Badump, barump, badump, barump.