



ACTIVITY 74

POOR PETER PIPER

ADVANCE PREPARATION: *Photocopy the stories on page 155 for student use.*

Individually or in small groups have your students read the Peter Piper stories, one at a time. For fun, invite students to read selected stories out loud as fast as they can to the rest of the class. Invite other class members to read along. Have competitions as to who can read the stories fastest without getting tongue-tied. Then discuss the associated questions.

74-1 Penelope Palmer Cheats Peter Piper

Ask and discuss:

- What is important to Penelope?
- Which EPT agents is Penelope listening to?
- Which C skills is Peter missing?

74-2 Patty Potter's Prevarication

Ask and discuss:

- How did Patty fail to live up to the trust that was placed in her?
- By telling her Poppa a lie, how did Patty make the situation worse?
- What is the difference between breaking a promise and telling a lie?

74-3 Peter Purloins Paula's Pie

Ask and discuss:

- Which C skills could help Peter find a happier solution?
- How did Peter demonstrate a lack of respect for others?
- Why is it hard to trust people who lack self-control or respect for others?

Discussion Opportunity: There is no safety in company with those who are dishonest. If a person will lie cheat or steal for personal gain, anyone who associates with them is at risk. Moreover, such people are a risk to themselves. Since no one can trust them, they can trust no one. Yet, no one is smart enough and clever enough at all times to be certain of avoiding either getting caught by their enemies or cheated by their friends. Character Traits: RO caring, fairness, citizenship; T honesty, dependability

Penelope Palmer Cheats Peter Piper

Peter Piper was poor. Peter's profession was picking pickled peppers. Eating pickled peppers was not a particularly popular pastime, (just think how pleasing pickled peppers are to your palate) and pickled pepper pickers were pretty poorly paid. To make things worse, Peter's employer was Penelope Palmer, a pitifully penurious piker who wouldn't flinch an inch to pinch a pound, much less a penny from poor people like Peter.

Part of the problem was that Peter was poorly prepared for plunderers like Penelope. He couldn't add or subtract. So Penelope pinched a penny per peck from every peck of pickled peppers Peter picked. Instead of the four pence per peck Penelope promised to pay Peter, Penelope only paid Peter three pence per peck. Peter was poor and would probably be perpetually poor as long as he picked pickled peppers for the penny pinching Penelope Palmer.

Retell the story (using as many "P" words as you can) to make Penelope a more honest person.

Patty Potter's Prevarication

Peter Piper was a penniless peasant. Picking pickled peppers was not a particularly popular profession and only the poorest of peasants picked pickle peppers. Despite his poverty, Peter Piper was a peasant peasant, and was pals with Patty Potter's Poppa. Peter Piper was feeling pretty poorly so Poppa Potter promised to have his daughter Patty bring Peter a pot of potato porridge. Patty Potter made particularly palatable potato porridge and Poppa Potter asked Patty to prepare a pot of hot potato porridge to take to Peter. Patty promised Poppa she would prepare the potato porridge for Peter.

Patty put to, picking, peeling, and preparing potatoes to make a porridge of prodigious proportions. But, just when Patty had her porridge prepared, Paula Puckett invited Patty to a party and asked her to bring some of her particularly palatable potato porridge. So Patty took her porridge to Paula's party instead of taking it to poor Peter who was perilously close to perishing for want of provender.

The next day, Poppa Potter went to visit Peter Piper and found poor Peter in a pitiful plight. Poppa Potter pitied the poor peasants perilous position and was pretty peeved Patty had not provided Peter the potato porridge he had promised. When Poppa Potter asked Patty why she had not provided the promised potato porridge to Peter, Patty pretended to pout and then performed a pernicious perfidy by proclaiming that her potato porridge had been poached by a pair of ponderous plunderers.

Retell the story (using as many "P" words as you can) to make Patty more trustworthy.

Peter Purloins Paula's Pie

Paula Puckett prepared a pot of potato porridge and a purple plum pie for her Poppa. Poppa Puckett was particularly partial to peas and parsnips with purple plum pie, but alas, Paula had no parsnips and peas. However, nothing pleased Poppa Puckett's palate more than purple plum pie. Paula put the pie on the porch to cool, and it's pungent aroma permeated the air.

Just then, Peter Piper, after a day of picking pickled peppers passed by pleasantly pondering a plate of peas and parsnips from the pot he kept perpetually prepared at his place.

Unfortunately, Peter had a purple passion for plum pie and like Poppa Puckett had a particular fondness for peas and parsnips with his pie. As the pungent odor of Paula's pie penetrated Peter's senses, Peter abandoned both prudence and principle and purloined Paula's pie from the Puckett's porch. As a result, Poppa and Paula Puckett had to be content with potato porridge while Peter Piper pigged out on parsnips and peas with purple plum pie.

Retell the story (using as many "P" words as you can) to give a happier ending to the story.

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