Executive & Organizational Skills, Lesson 2







Uses Observation to Identify Expected and Unexpected Behaviors (EOS.5)

EXPECTED BEHAVIOR ROLE PLAY

SETTING/CONTEXT: George and three peers are checking out books in the library. Ms. Rao plays the role of the librarian.

MS. RAO (ACTING AS LIBRARIAN):

Alright everyone, now that you have your books, you can read silently.

- Peer 1 reads a book silently to themselves.
- Peers 2 & 3 begins whispering to each other about their weekend plans.
- Peer 1 continues reading their book silently.

MS. RAO (ACTING AS HERSELF): I know the librarian just told your classmates to be quiet. Do you think whispering is expected or unexpected? Remember, some people whisper at the library, even thought it's against the rules. Do you think this behavior is expected or unexpected?

GEORGE: Expected.

MS. RAO: Good, now you can continue reading your book and move away from the peers if they're bugging you.

UNEXPECTED BEHAVIOR ROLE PLAY:

SETTING/CONTEXT: George and three peers are checking out books in the library. Ms. Rao plays the role of the librarian.

MS. RAO (ACTING AS LIBRARIAN):

Alright everyone, now that you have your books, you can read silently.

- Peer 1 reads a book silently to themselves.
- Peer 2 and 3 begin running around the room playing tag and shouting, "You're it!"
- Peer 1 stops reading their book and looks up. They appear annoyed.

MS. RAO (ACTING AS LIBRARIAN)

continues sorting books with her back turned away from the other peers.

MS. RAO (ACTING AS SELF): In this situation, I was acting as the librarian, and I didn't notice the two students running around playing tag. Do you thinking playing tag in the library is expected or unexpected?

GEORGE: Unexpected

MS. RAO: That's right. People are expected to read or work quietly or silently in the library. I also noticed [Peer 1 name] stopped reading and looked pretty annoyed when the students started playing tag. That's because running around in the library is disruptive. Sometimes you can tell when a behavior is expected or unexpected based on how your other classmates respond. The librarian would probably notice the students playing tag pretty soon, but you can walk over to her to let her know what's going on if you'd like.

Other examples should include scenarios where expected behaviors are unexpected (like whispering to a peer during a group conversation at lunch might be unexpected, but playing tag outside might be expected).

