



DESIGN FOR SUCCESS

Present yourself well.

When Jones arrives at the Secret Millionaires' Club meeting right after a job interview, the group is surprised to see him wearing jeans. They discover that he's been dressing that way for multiple interviews. Jones and the club members quickly learn that people—just like businesses—need to package themselves properly to be successful.

Encourage kids to make a good first impression.

Ask kids: When Jones talked to his friends, he learned he made an inappropriate clothing choice for a job interview. What would you have recommended to him? What are some other ways to make a good first impression?

Discuss how presenting yourself well can lead to success.

Have a conversation with your child about the importance of first impressions. Share a story about a first impression you've had that turned out to be incorrect. See if your child has had a similar experience. Discuss why it's difficult to change a first impression.

Activities:

1. Having the right body language is also critical to present yourself well. Give your child tips on "how to wow": sit up straight rather than slouch, smile, make eye contact, don't chew gum, and avoid fidgeting and hair twirling. Role-play scenarios that illustrate poor body language (such as slouching) and correct body language (sitting up straight). Have your child share impressions of both.
2. Imagine your child is going on an interview to be a camp counselor or a baby sitter. Hold a mock interview. Have your child pick out which clothes to wear, and discuss the choice. Practice other behaviors that make a good impression, such as punctuality, solid handshake, and proper communication skills (steer clear of *like*, *whatever*, *you know*, and so on).
3. Warren explains how to package yourself to succeed. For example, show respect to be respected. Admire honesty as part of being honest. And be lovable to be loved. Have kids give examples of ways they have exhibited those qualities.

Tip: Your child may not be putting on a suit for a job interview, but it's not too soon to reinforce the importance of good hygiene skills when it comes to appearance. Whether your child is heading to a friend's birthday party or doing volunteer work, being well-groomed helps make a good impression. So have kids wash up, brush their teeth, comb their hair, and make sure their nails are clean.

