

# **I REPEAT, DON'T CHEAT!**

**GRADES K-3**

**Written by Margery Cuyler  
Illustrated by Arthur Howard**

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## ***Story Summary***

Jessica and Lizzie are best friends. They do everything together, from playing at recess to drawing pictures. But Jessica has a big new worry when Lizzie starts cheating. What should Jessica do? In this book, Jessica explores her feelings about this situation and tries to solve her problem. This is a good resource for helping children confronted with difficult classroom situations.

## ***Objectives***

1. To learn coping strategies for dealing with “cheaters.”
2. To recognize behaviors that are dishonest and hurtful to others.
3. To develop verbal expressive skills.

## ***Before viewing the video***

In this video, you will meet Margery Cuyler, the book’s author. Ask the children to raise their hands if anyone has ever copied work from them. Invite them to talk about this without mentioning anyone by name. Tell them they will meet a girl named Jessica in this story who has a best friend named Lizzie. Jessica has a problem when Lizzie starts copying her work. We will see what Jessica does about this problem and, after the video, we will talk about things we could do if this happens.

## **Questions to ask after viewing the video**

1. What were some of the things that worried Jessica?
2. Why did Lizzie become a new worry for Jessica?
3. Why did Jessica decide not to tell Mr. Martin that Lizzie copied her spelling words?
4. What did Lizzie do at recess that made Jessica upset?
5. Why did Jessica feel confused about telling the truth about Lizzie?
6. How did Jessica feel when Lizzie read Jessica's poem in class?
7. Why did Jessica have trouble sleeping at night?
8. What did Mr. Martin say that was helpful?
9. How did Lizzie and Jessica solve their problem?

## **Activities**

1. Initiate a classroom discussion about cheating. You may wish to ask the following to help the children express themselves:
  - Who has seen someone be dishonest about their schoolwork?
  - Who has been asked to help a friend with their work?
  - Do you feel that you were helping or that your friend was cheating?
  - Mr. Martin said that there is a difference between *helping* and *doing*.
  - Explain in your own words what the difference means to you.
2. In the video, Jessica felt very sad before she solved her problem. Ask the children to prepare individual lists of people they can go to for advice when they have a problem.
3. Have the children practice responses to others who are being dishonest: i.e., "I am happy to help you, but I can not share my work with you."