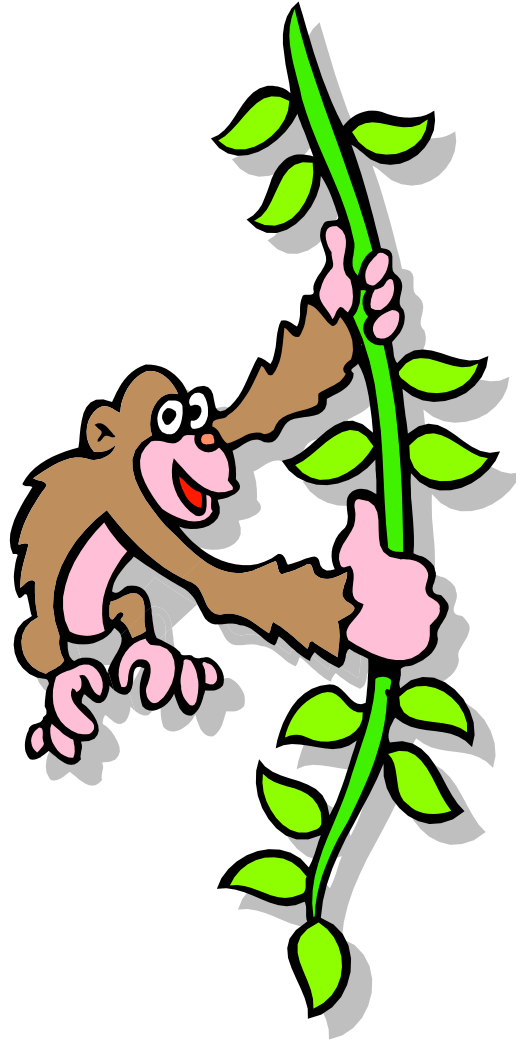
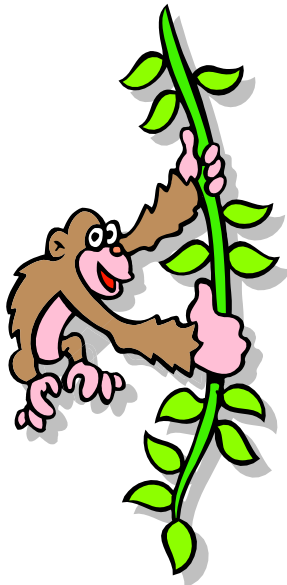


Manny, The Mischievous Monkey



-Grandma Sharon

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Manny Learns about Stealing

Manny Learns to Obey Rules

Manny Plays too many Pranks

Manny Gets too Curious

Manny Helps his Mother

**Grandma Sharon
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MANNY LEARNS ABOUT STEALING.

Manny is a cute little monkey who gets into a lot of trouble. One day when he was playing in the trees of the jungle, he saw his brother with a red piece of candy. He thought: that sure is pretty. And then he thought some more: That sure looks tasty. And then he thought: I sure would like to taste it. So he dashed over where his brother was and snatched the candy.

His brother began to scream and screech and he wouldn't quit. So Manny ran off with the candy and hid. Then he began eating the candy. Mmmmm, It was delicious!

When he finished eating, he went back out to where he was playing. Pretty soon, he heard his mother calling him. He swung in the trees to where his mother was. She looked at him and shook her head back and forth. "Manny, did you take your brother's candy away from him?" "Who, me?" Answered Manny. "Yes, you!" answered his mother. "Not I." said Manny. "Yes, he did," said his brother.

"What color was the candy?" Asked Momma Monkey. "It was red." Answered Manny's brother. Momma monkey looked at Manny and said: "Manny, look in the water." Many looked in the water at his reflection, and saw? You are right. His mouth was covered in something red. Manny knew he had been caught!

"I'm sorry, Momma!" said Manny. Momma Monkey said: "Manny, you're sorry because you got caught. That's not the real reason you should be sorry." "What's the real reason, Momma?" asked Manny. "You should be sorry because you did something wrong." "Yes, Momma" said Manny.

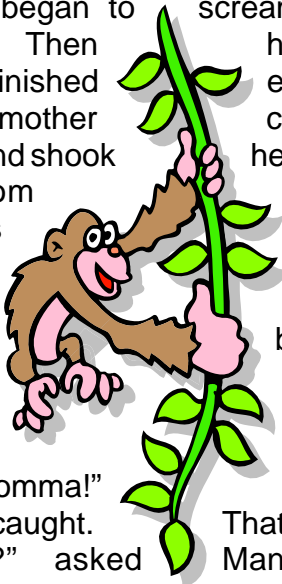
"Manny, what did you do wrong?" "I stole Bubba's candy." "That's right. And what else did you do?" "I told a lie." "Yes, you did."

"Do you know what the Bible says about those things, Manny?" "That you should not steal." "What else Manny?" "You should not tell lies." "That's right, Manny, and I have one other verse for you. It is Numbers 32:23. It says: "Be sure your sin will find you out." "God always knows what we are doing. He sees everything and it makes Him sad when we do things He has told us not to do."

"I'm sorry, Momma. I learned my lesson. I'll try not to steal and lie again!"

"That's good, Manny, but there is something else you should do, too. Do you know what it is, Manny?" "I should ask Bubba to forgive me, shouldn't I?" "Yes, Manny, and you should also ask God to forgive you. (1 Juan 1:9) And Manny, you should make what you did right by giving Bubba a piece or your candy."

Manny learned his lesson. Did you learn a lesson, too? What did you learn?



MANNY LEARNS TO OBEY RULES

"Mommy, Mommy," called Manny. "Can I go play up on the hill with the other monkeys?" "Yes, Manny, but you come home when the sun goes behind the mountain. And Manny, remember not to eat the red fruit of that big tree on top of the hill."

"Okay, Mommy." And off he went swinging through the trees and running up the hill.

Manny played tag and then hide and seek with the other monkeys. He was having such fun. After a while he got really hungry. One big monkey told him. "You can eat those red berries on that big tree." Manny said, "My Mommy said not to eat them." "Oh, but they are really good," said the big monkey. "Here, try one. Are you a baby or what? Finally, Manny decided to try one, and then another and another. Manny was so busy eating and playing that he didn't noticed where the sun was. Pretty soon he got really sleepy, so he lay down on a big limb of the tree and pretty soon, he was fast asleep.

When he woke up it was really dark and his tummy hurt really bad. "Oh, no," said Manny. "I didn't obey Momma's rules. No what am I going to do?" He looked around for the other monkeys, but they were all gone. He couldn't find even one and his tummy was really hurting. "What am I going to do?" thought Manny. And then he heard a lion roar really close. Manny climbed higher in the tree. He was afraid and sick and knew he had done a lot of wrong things. Poor Manny. What can he do?

Manny's mother was really worried because Manny hadn't come home and it was really late. She couldn't leave her other little monkeys to go look for Manny. What was she going to do?

She decided to call the head monkey. He said, "Manny is in trouble again! When is he going to learn to obey the rules?" "Please help find him," said Manny's mother. "Okay," said the head monkey. He took two other big monkeys and they went to the hill to try to find Manny. They heard a big lion roar. So they went very carefully up the hill. Soon they found Manny up in the big tree. He was very sick and scarred. They quietly picked up Manny and headed home.

Manny's mother was so glad to see him. "Manny, why did you disobey the rules?" "Oh, Momma, I am so sorry." Manny groaned.

"What did you eat?" asked Manny's Mamma monkey. "I ate a lot of those red berries from that big tree. A big monkey told me it was good. And then I went to sleep and didn't wake up until it was really dark. I was so sick and so scared. And then this lion roared really loud! I'm so sorry Momma!"

"Well, I think you learned the lesson that you should always obey the rules."

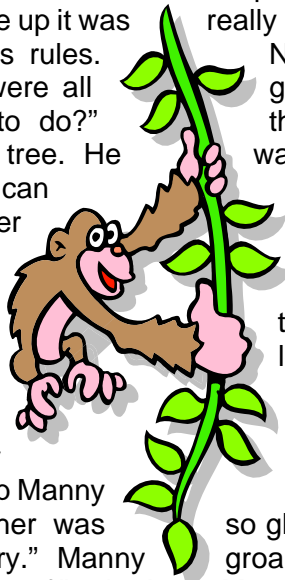
"Yes, Momma, my tummy hurts."

"Lie still, I'm going to go get some leaves off of the medicine tree. I'll be right back."

After Manny ate the medicine leaves, his tummy felt better. His mommy held him in her arms and Manny went to sleep again.

Do you know why we have rules? Should we obey the rules? Do you always try to obey the rules? I certainly hope so.

God has rules that we should obey. We can read them in the Bible. One of them is : "Children, obey your parents..." (Ephesians 6:1) I hope you obey your parents like Manny learned to obey his mother.



MANNY PLAYS TOO MANY PRANKS

“Oh, no, here comes Manny again! Let’s get out of here!” As Manny came closer all the monkeys ran away. And it wasn’t the first time it had happened. In fact, Manny began to feel like nobody wanted to be around him.

“Come back everybody. Let’s play!” yelled Manny. “No way,” called one of the monkeys. Manny thought....How can I get them to come back....? Hmmmm..... I know, I’ll tell them I know where there a lots of ripe bananas.

Manny waited until he thought all the monkeys would be really hungry and he went to the top of the hill and screeched real loud and said, “I know where there are some ripe bananas! Come on, I’ll show you!”

One little monkey peeked out from behind a tree. “Where?” he yelled. “Come here and I’ll show you.” So the little monkey went to the top of the hill. “Okay, where are the ripe bananas?” “Wait till the rest get here.” said Manny.

Slowly Manny’s other playmates went they?” “Follow me,” said Manny, and he led them to the top of the hill. There were a bunch of rotten bananas.

All the monkeys got mad at Manny. One monkey yelled, “They are not funny anymore!” And all the monkeys went home very slowly.

Manny went home very slowly and began to pout and feel sorry for himself.

After a little while his cousin Mopsy came by and said: “What’s the matter, Manny. You look so sad.” “Yeah,”

“So I heard,” said Mopsy. “Fun for whom, it’s fun,” said Manny. “Fun for whom, “But they play pranks too,” answered Mopsy. “I guess I shouldn’t play so many pranks,” said Manny.

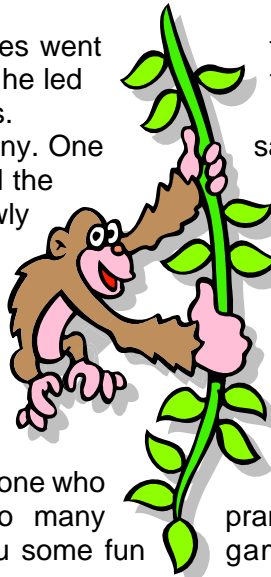
“Do you want me to show you some fun games to play?” asked Mopsy. “That would be great!” said Manny.

They started playing “Hide the Coconut” and were having a great time. Pretty soon, one by one the other monkeys came to see what they were doing to have so much fun. “Can we play, too?” they asked. “Sure,” said Manny.

“Wait,” said Manny. “I have something to say. I’m sorry I played so many pranks on you. Will you forgive me?” “Sure,” said all. “Now, let’s play.”

Manny learned another lesson. He learned that there are bad ways to play and there are good ways to play. Do you know what are bad ways to play? Do you know what are good ways to play? I hope so.

There is a verse in the Bible that says: “Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them...” (Matthew 7:12) Can you explain that? It will teach us to know how to play well.



to the top of the hill. “O.K., Manny, where are they to the village to a place behind a restaurant.

said, “Manny, not again, we are tired of your tricks. monkeys ran away.

and very sadly. He thought,...I only wanted Manny got home to his family’s tree and sat for himself.

Mopsy came by and said: “What’s the matter, said Manny. “Nobody wants to play with me.”

“They say you are always playing pranks. “But, fun for them or fun for you?” asked Mopsy. Manny. “Yes,” said Mopsy, “but they don’t do does the same thing all the time.”

pranks,” said Manny.

games to play?” asked Mopsy. “That would be

MANNY GETS TOO CURIOUS

Manny liked to discover things. He would explore the jungle looking at the plants, the bugs, the birds, the other animals, etc. One day as he was exploring, he saw a small hole in the ground. He got down low and looked into the hole. He saw something bright red in the hole. "I wonder what that is?" he thought. I wonder if it is candy. Manny stuck in his hand and tried to pull it out, but he couldn't get his hand out of the hole with the candy in his fist.

So he pushed his hand in farther and tried to make the hole bigger. With all the movement, the little mouse in the hole woke up and saw that something was trying to steal his candy, so he bit Manny's hand. "Ouch! That hurt!" screeched Manny. He let go of the candy and pulled his hand out of the hole. He shook his hand and saw it was bleeding. That scared Manny.

Manny decided to go home and let his mother fix up his hand. "Mommy, Mommy," he called as he came near his tree.

"Manny, what happened to your hand?" "Something bit me!" "What bit you, Manny?" "I don't know. I just stuck my hand in a hole in the ground and it bit me."

"That sounds dangerous. Manny you should be more cautious than that. It's better to be careful. Never stick your hand in a hole in the ground. Here, let me clean your hand and bandage it."

Manny cried when his mother cleaned his hand. He wished he had thought before he stuck his hand in the hole.

We should always think before we do things and say things. The Bible says, "Walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise." (Ephesians 5:15) That means we should be very careful and think before we do things.



MANNY HELPS HIS MOTHER

"Manny," called his mother. "Will you watch your brother and sister for me, while I go find us a coconut, please?"

Manny started to sayOh, Mom, do I have to....., but he thought first and decided to say, "Okay, Mom."

"Thank you, Manny. I won't be gone long. Don't let them leave this tree." "Okay, Mom."

After Manny's Mom left, his brother and sister said, "Manny, let's go 'lay on the hill." Manny wanted to, but he remembered the lesson he had learned on the hill. What was that lesson? Do you remember? Yes, it was that he should obey his parents. So Manny said, "No, Momma said not to leave the tree and we should obey Momma."

A little later, Manny's brother, Bubba, saw something high up in the tree. He wondered what it was.

So he started climbing and climbing up to see what it was. When Manny saw what he was doing, he called to him, "Bubba, Don't go any farther." "Why?" called Bubba. "Because it is dangerous." said Manny. "But, I want to see what it is." "I know." said Manny. "Remember when I got bit by being too curious? We should think before we do things. What do you think could happen if you got way up in this tree?"

Bubba thought and there and not be able to come back down. I could....."

"That's right," said Manny. "What do you think you should do?" "I think I should not go up any farther." "Why don't you come down here and play with us?"

It looks like Manny learned his lessons, and he was helping his mother by taking care of his brother and sister. He was also teaching them the lessons he had learned. What other lesson did Manny learn, besides the ones he taught his brother and sister. That's right, he also learned not to steal.

Have you learned these lessons, too?

"In all things showing thyself a pattern of good works..."

Titus 2:7

