



Christmas Morning: Opening Gifts Nicely

An EZducate Social Learning Story

Target Skill: Opening gifts politely

Reading Level: Beginner

Story Type: Social story

Approach: Perspective

Generated: 11/13/2025

It is Christmas morning, and I am excited to open my gifts. Christmas is a special time when we gather around the Christmas tree with family. I see brightly wrapped presents, and I feel happy.



Christmas Morning: Opening Gifts Nicely



It is Christmas morning, and I am excited to open my gifts. Christmas is a special time when we gather around the Christmas tree with family. I see brightly wrapped presents, and I feel happy.





When it's time to open gifts, I wait patiently for my turn. I can look at my family's faces and see their excitement too. It is kind to wait because everyone enjoys their turn to open gifts.



I will open my gift carefully and say 'thank you' to show I appreciate it. Saying 'thank you' makes people feel happy, and I feel good when I am polite.

If I get a gift I don't expect, I can still smile and say 'thank you.' I know that the person who gave it to me wanted to make me happy. This helps me stay calm and happy even if the gift is a surprise.

Everybody takes turns opening gifts, and I can watch what they get. Watching others open their gifts is fun and helps me feel closer to my family. I am patient and wait for my turn again. I enjoy Christmas morning, and I can feel happy and calm by being kind and thankful.



Key Social Concepts

patience

gratitude

turn-taking

consideration

Social Rules

- wait for your turn
- say 'thank you'
- be patient



Social Understanding Questions

1. What should you do when it's someone else's turn to open a gift?

- A. Wait patiently *
- B. Grab the gift
- C. Talk loudly
- D. Leave the room

2. How do you show you appreciate a gift?

- A. Say 'thank you' *
- B. Ignore it
- C. Hide it
- D. Complain about it

3. What should you do if you get a gift you didn't expect?

- A. Smile and say 'thank you' *
- B. Throw it away
- C. Cry
- D. Ask for a different one

4. How does saying 'thank you' make people feel?

- A. Happy *
- B. Sad
- C. Angry
- D. Confused

** Indicates the correct answer*



Social Cues Guide: Opening gifts politely

Skill Description

Opening gifts politely involves expressing gratitude and appreciation to demonstrate good manners when receiving a gift, making the gift-giver feel valued.

Social Cues to Watch For

When opening gifts, look for positive facial expressions such as smiling and nodding, which indicate the gift-giver is pleased and attentive. Notice body language like eye contact, which shows engagement, or leaning forward, indicating that the person is interested in your reaction. Pay attention to verbal cues like the tone of voice, as an excited or warm tone suggests happiness about giving the gift.

Common Misunderstandings

- Thinking you need to like the gift to say thank you.
- Believing that showing immediate excitement is always necessary.
- Not understanding the importance of acknowledging the person who gave the gift.

Practice Scenarios

1. Scenario 1: Practice opening a gift that is clearly wrapped but is just a box inside the wrapping. The focus is on saying thank you and appreciating whatever is inside.
2. Scenario 2: Role-play with a friend or sibling who gives a real or pretend gift. Practice maintaining eye contact and smiling while expressing gratitude.
3. Scenario 3: Simulate receiving a gift that you already have, and practice how to still express appreciation gracefully.
4. Scenario 4: Create a scenario where the child receives a homemade gift, emphasizing how to show appreciation for the effort and thoughtfulness.
5. Scenario 5: Practice with a teacher or parent giving multiple small pretend gifts in quick succession to help the child learn responses for each.