



You Can Be a  
**Cool Kind Kid**

## Manners Matter Everywhere

By Barbara Gilmour

Hello again. Tanner, Truman the Dragon and their friends are talking about where manners matter. They already know that manners can help them be both kind and cool. Learning manners helps them have more friends because people want to spend time with them — that's pretty cool.

I asked the kids where they thought they needed to have good manners. Some said "school," some said "at home" and others said, "when eating." We talked about the places they go every day, like going shopping or to a meal with their family or at school.

The kids had fun making a list of all the places they might go in a day. They called it "Tanner's Day." You can join in! Think of a good manners skill that Tanner needs for each place. We started in Tanner's room (1). He said picking up toys is good manners. Next, Tanner has breakfast in the kitchen (2). Manuel shared, "I say 'good morning' to my Mom when I first see her." Tanner then goes outside (3). Truman waved his hand and said, "I like to be friendly, so I say 'hi' to Mr. Rupp, my neighbor."



When Tanner gets to the bus stop, he waits patiently in line for the bus (4). Rudy said, "It's rude to push and shove in line." When the bus gets to school (5), the kids go to their class right away (6). Rosie said she greets her friends. Tanner shared that he says "good morning" to his teacher and sits in his seat.

In the cafeteria (7), kids with good manners line up quietly, get their food, and find a seat. Rudy, who is trying hard not to be rude, said, "No food fights!" After lunch, Tanner has gym class (8). Nicole said, "It's not polite to take someone's stuff." Then Tanner has sports practice after school (9). He said, "I always listen to my coach."

After practice, Tanner's Mom picks him up to go to the mall for shoes (10). Carmen said she loves to go to the mall and always stays with her Mom. When they go to the shoe store (11), Tanner picks out the pair he wants and puts the others back in a neat pile.

On the way home, Tanner and his Mom stop at a fast food restaurant (12). Rosie said, "You should order what you want without holding up the line." When they get home (13), Tanner greets his Dad, then does his homework. Before going to bed (14), Truman said, "Always say 'good night' to your family and be sure to tell them that you love them." That is one Cool Kind Dragon!

Wow! The kids here thought of 14 places where manners matter. Can you think of more? Manners really do matter EVERYWHERE! Barbara Gilmour, Tanner's grandmom, is the creator and developer of the Tanner's Manners: Be a "Cool Kind Kid" Social Skills, Character Values and Anti-Bullying educational materials and the award-winning "Cool Kind Kid" Audio CD. She also writes the Children's Manners Blog, offering tips for teaching your children manners. <http://childrenmanners.blogspot.com>. The "Cool Kind Kid" team is committed to helping kids reject bullying by offering them the social skills tools they need to redefine "cool." ©Cool Kind Kid 866-KID-KIND, [www.CoolKindKid.com](http://www.CoolKindKid.com)