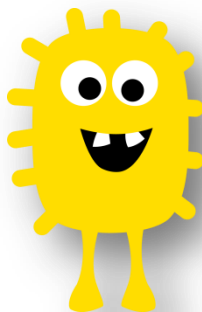


monster manners

Activities for teaching rules and expectations during the first few days of school.

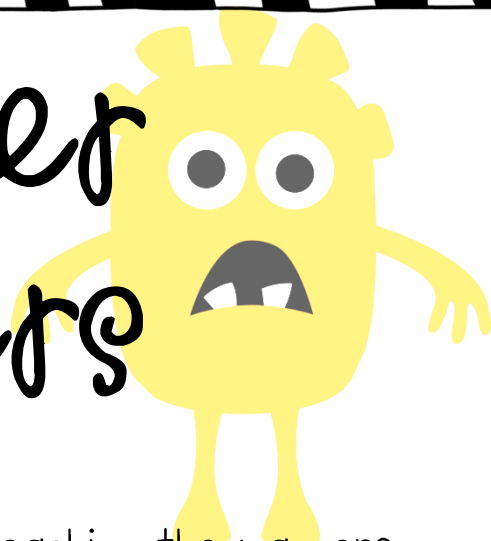


By: Kathleen Pedersen

<http://growingkinders.blogspot.com>

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monster manners



On the following pages are ideas for teaching the manners and behaviors that are expected of your kiddos when they come to school.

I have found that children understand what is expected of them when you give them clear, and concise explanations. I do not use a behavior plan in my classroom. The children are taught the terms “above the line” and “below the line.” Of course you will always have those kiddos that need a little bit more, but this will work for the majority of your kiddos if you are very clear with your expectations and catch kids “doing the right thing” and many, many times and use LOTS of positive reinforcement at the beginning of the year. (and throughout, of course!!)

When teaching this lesson, you could use the story of a monster who came to school! Have the children imagine what it would be like if a monster came to school! How would he behave? How would he treat others? Brainstorm monster manners and school manners. This is a lesson that will surely stick!

behavior expectations sort

This sort is a great activity to do whole group for you to establish student expectations. For this activity I use 3" x 3" picture cards depicting above, below and bottom line behaviors. I ask our special education team to make the pictures with Boardmaker. I do not own the software, so I am unable to reproduce them for you here. I have included some word cards for you to use. I would highly recommend getting picture cards so students can "see" the behavior. You can download *some* at this website:
<http://www.readytwolearn.com/>

Examples of each type of behavior:

"above"	"below"	"bottom"
sharing	interrupting	hitting
raising hand	blurting	kicking
sitting criss-cross	breaking tools/toys	pushing
listening	tattling	spitting
walking	not keeping hands to self	yelling
working	playing during carpet time	
helping others	laying down during carpet time	
participating	talking in the hallways	
cleaning up		

Here is what you do:

Prepare a poster with the included headings (Manners at School, above the line, below the line, bottom line).

Show each monster/word to the class and discuss whether it would be something that is appropriate for school/not appropriate. If it is not appropriate discuss if it is a bottom line behavior. You should also discuss with the students your school's policy for these types of behavior. Have student stick the monsters/words in the appropriate spots on the poster.





sharing



listening



**working
hard**



**helping
others**



Participating



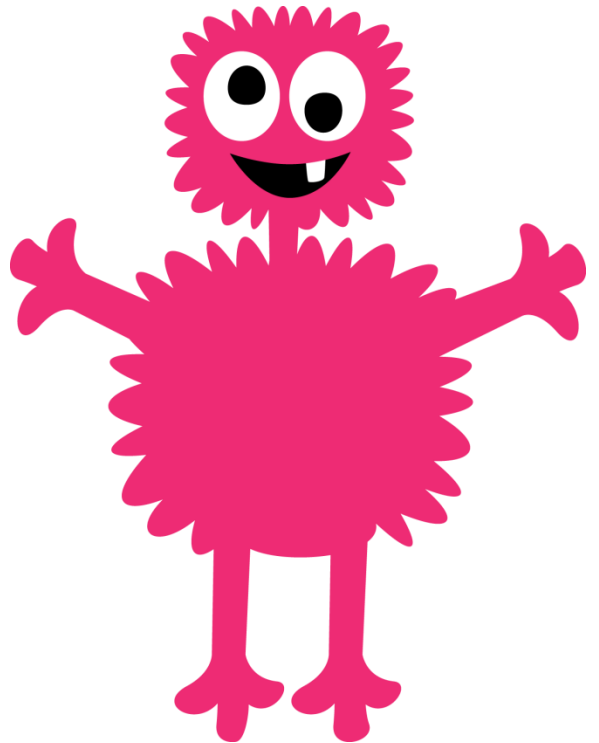
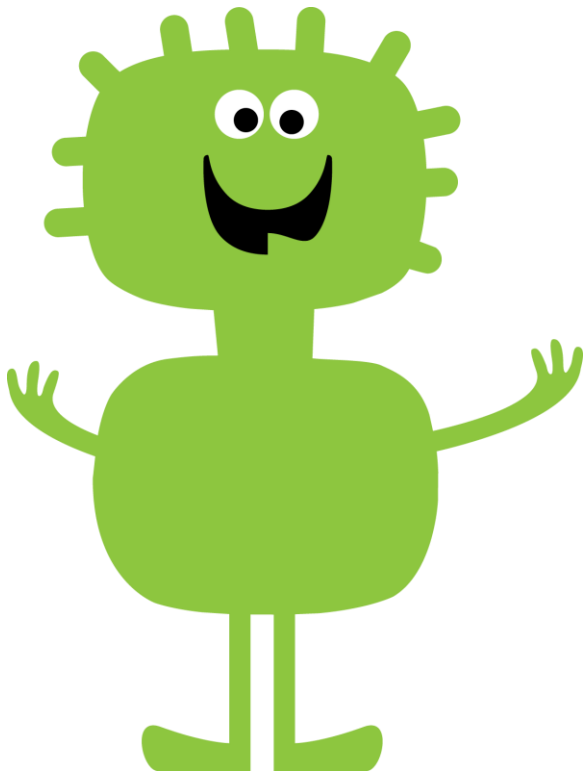
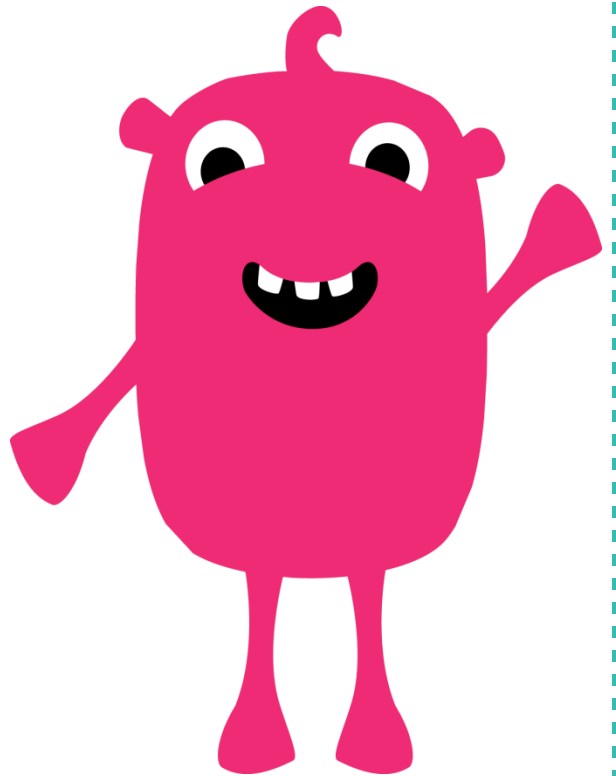
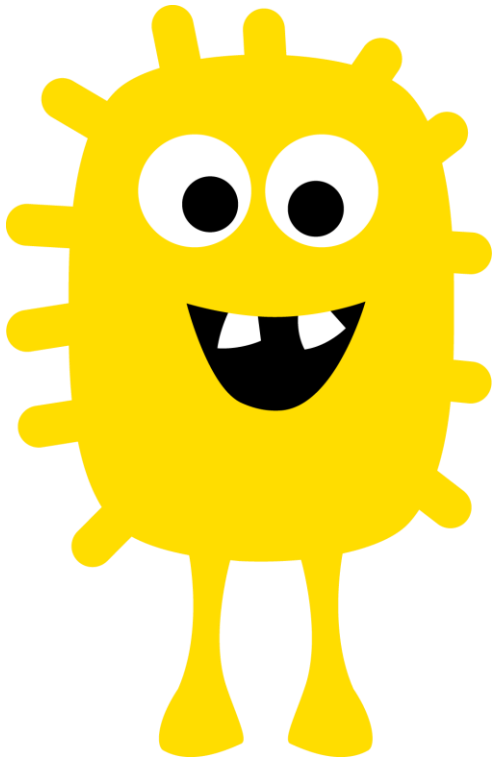
**Cleaning
UP**



walking



**Using
kind
words**

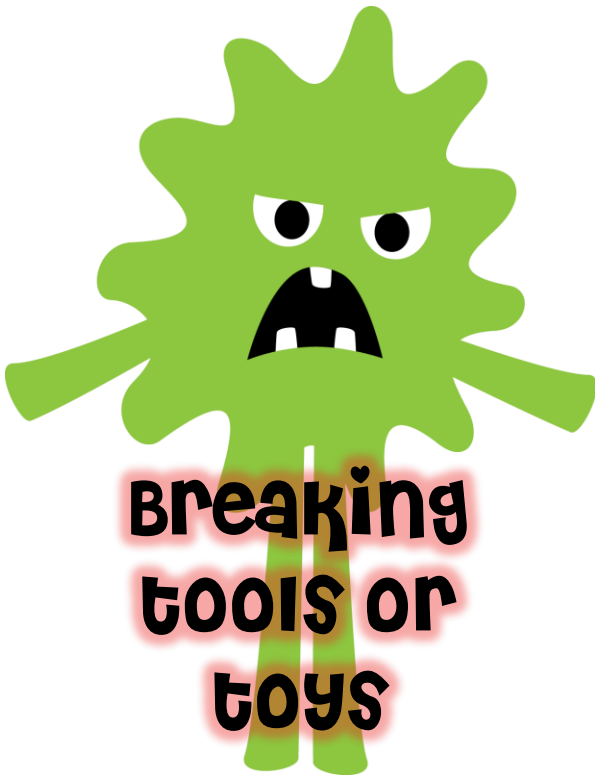




interrupting



blurting



**Breaking
tools or
toys**



tattling



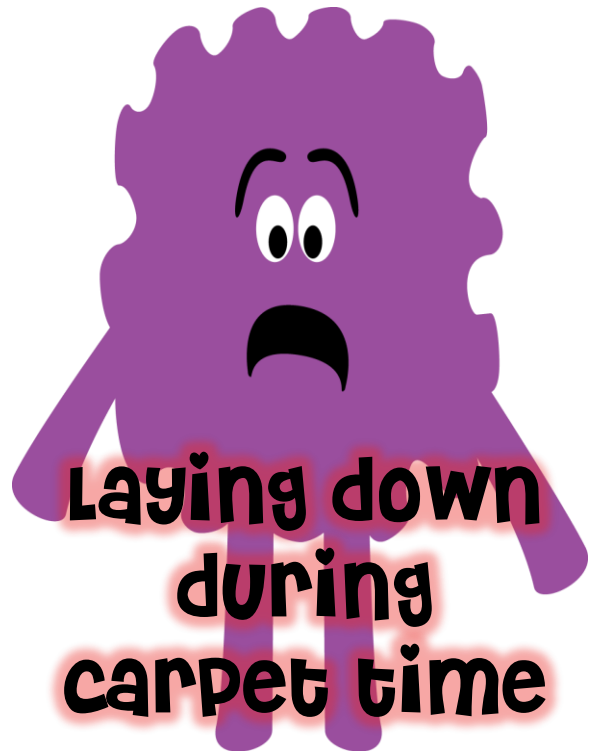
**not keeping
hands to
self**



blurting



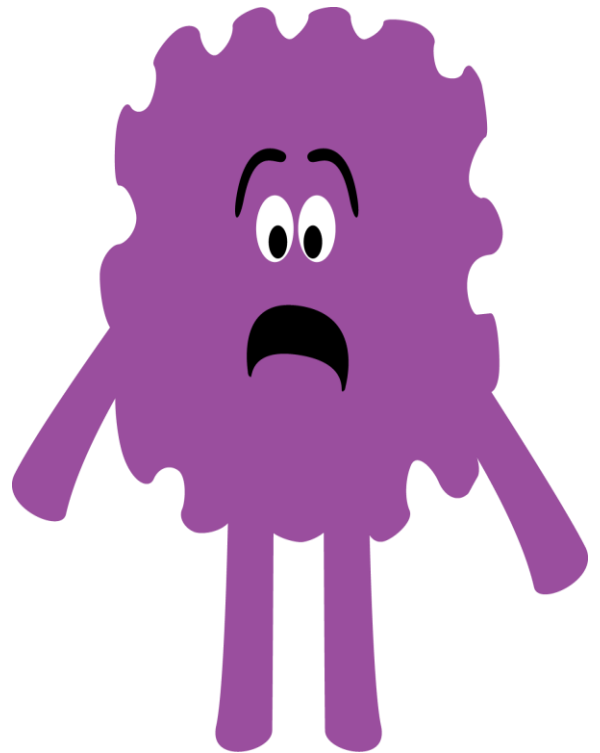
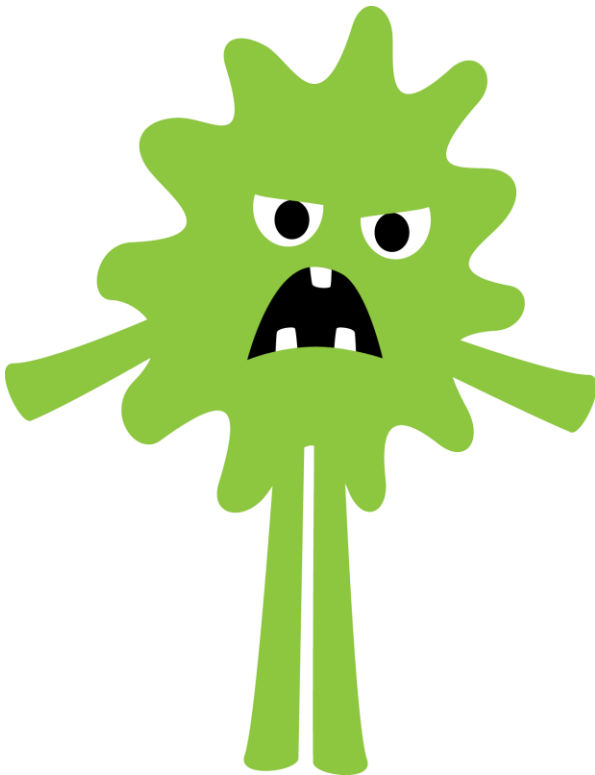
**playing
during
carpet time**



**Laying down
during
carpet time**



**Talking in
the hallways**





hitting



kicking



pushing



spitting



**Above the
line**

**Below
the line**

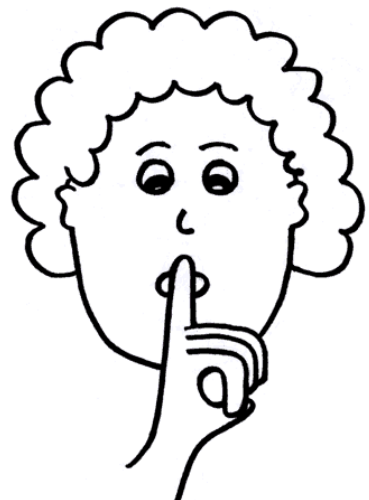
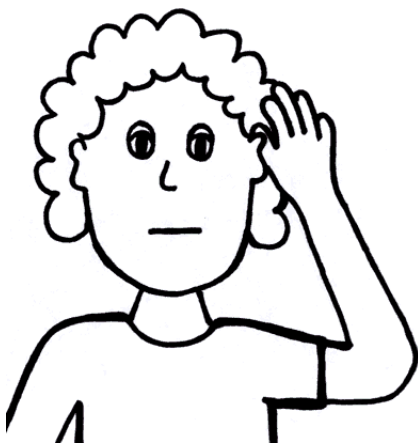
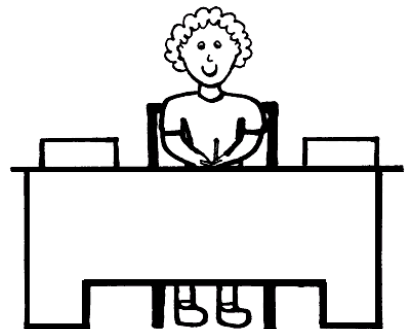
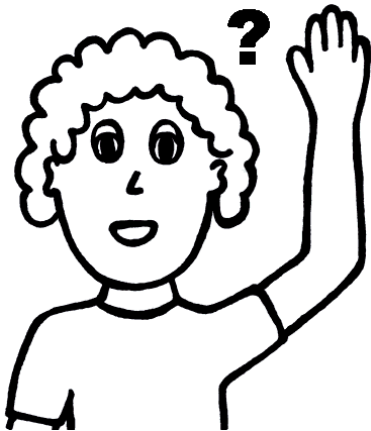
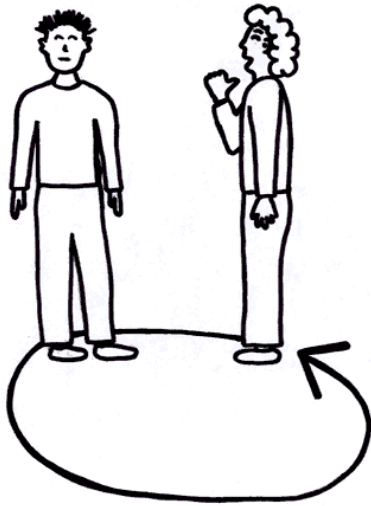
**Bottom
line**

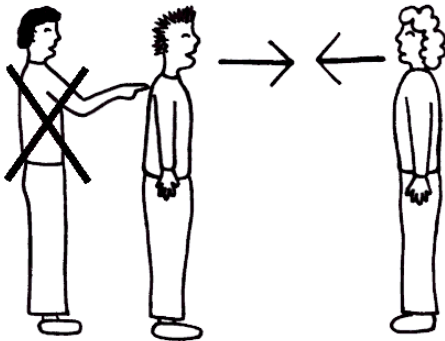
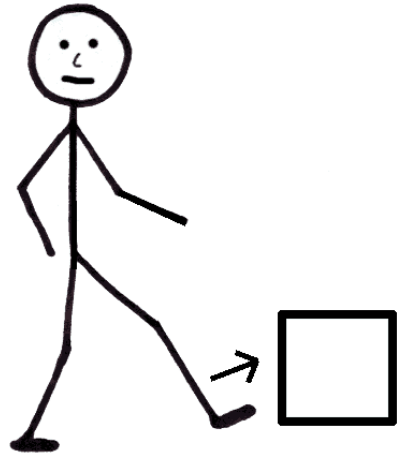
manners

at

school

Here are a few picture cards to get you started. They are all from the ReadytwoLearn website.





establishing rules and expectations

After you have completed the above the line/below the line sort (you can do this as many times as you need to!), it is time to establish your classroom rules. It is best to keep them as simple as possible! For example:

1. We walk in school.
2. We raise our hand to speak.
3. We listen to the speaker.
4. We are kind to our friends.
5. We clean up after ourselves.

Together with your class generate rules and expectations that will be best for you and your kiddos. If you write them with the class, they will have more ownership for them. It is fun to have them sign their name or stamp their fingerprint at the bottom. Hang up these expectations in your classroom to refer to throughout the year.

we make good choices in school!

Draw a picture of how you make good choices at school.



By _____

Whole Body Listening

The book on the following pages is based on the concept of “whole body listening” developed by Michelle Garcia Winner and her colleagues at Think Social Publishing.

Many children come to school not really knowing how to listen. With this story, you will explicitly teach kids how to be a good listener – by listening with their whole body (eyes, ears, hands, feet, body, heart, brain).

The characters in the book are monsters! This book will correlate nicely with “The Monster Who Came To School” story.

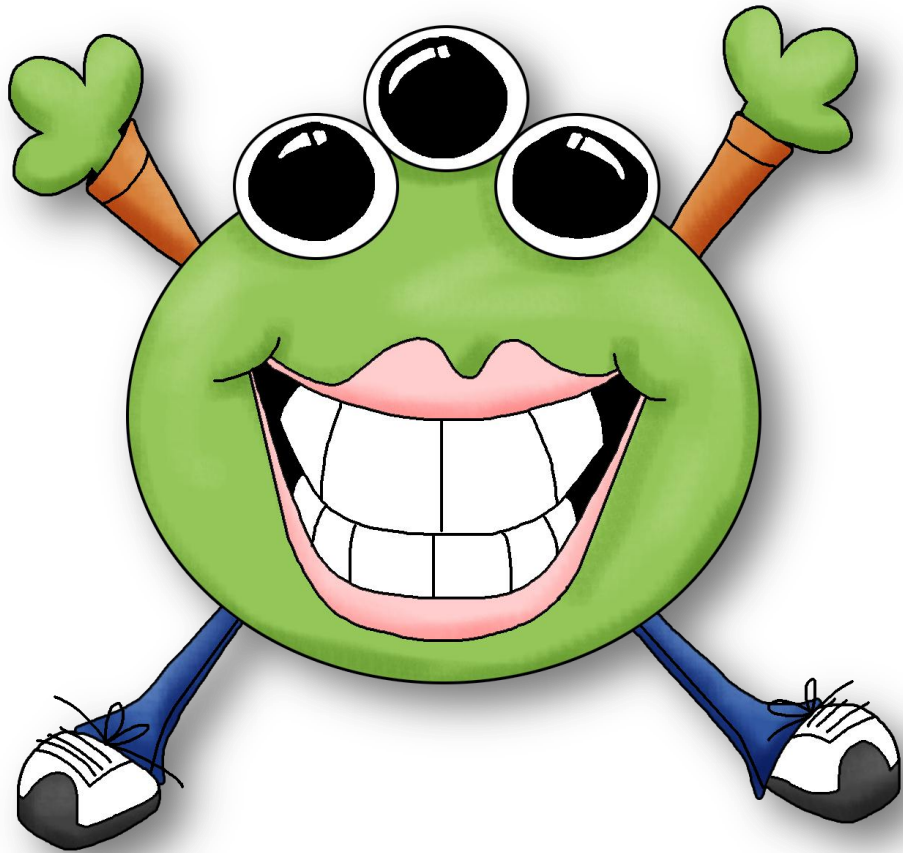
There is a poster included at the end and directions for how to print it into a larger size.

can you
listen with
your...?



By: Kathleen Pedersen

**A monster can listen
with his eyes. can you?**



**yes! I look at the
speaker when I am
listening!**

**A monster can listen
with his mouth.
can you?**



**yes! I keep my mouth closed
and don't talk with others
or make sounds when I am
listening!**

**A monster can listen
with his body.
can you?**



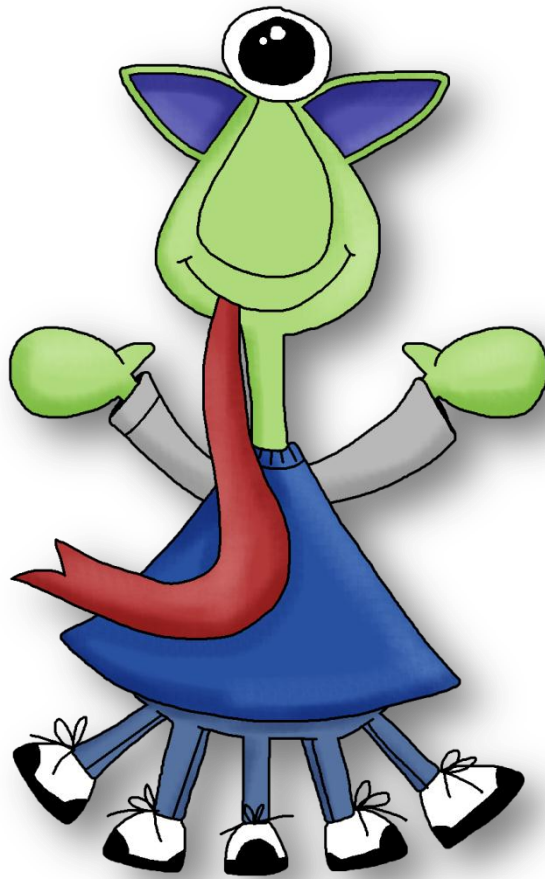
**yes! my body is facing
the speaker when I am
listening!**

**A monster can listen
with his hands.
can you?**



**yes! my hands are at my
side or in my lap when I
am listening!**

**A monster can listen
with his feet.
can you?**



**yes! my feet are still
and quiet when I am
listening!**

**A monster can listen
with his brain.
can you?**



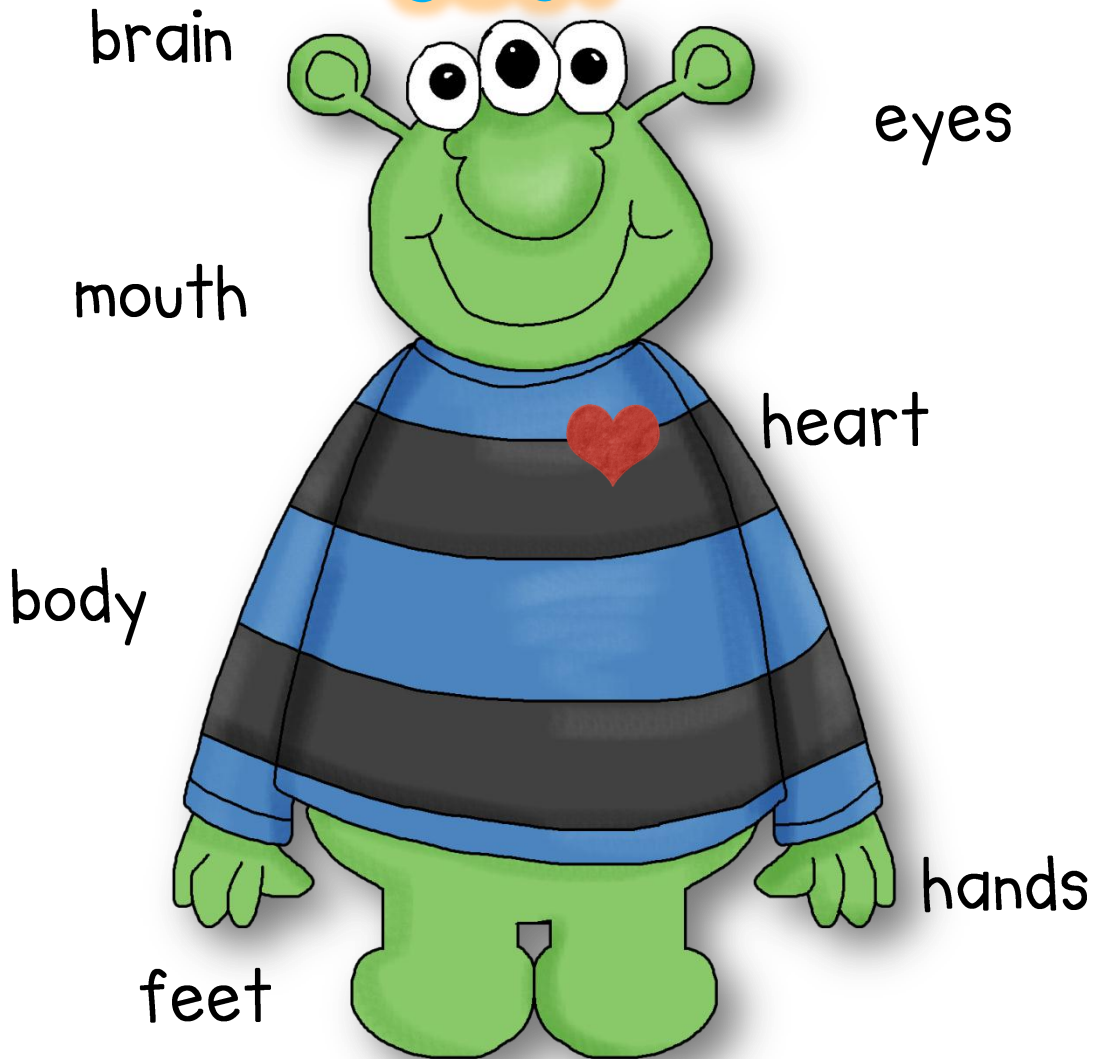
**yes! my brain is
thinking when i am
listening!**

**A monster can listen
with his heart.
can you?**



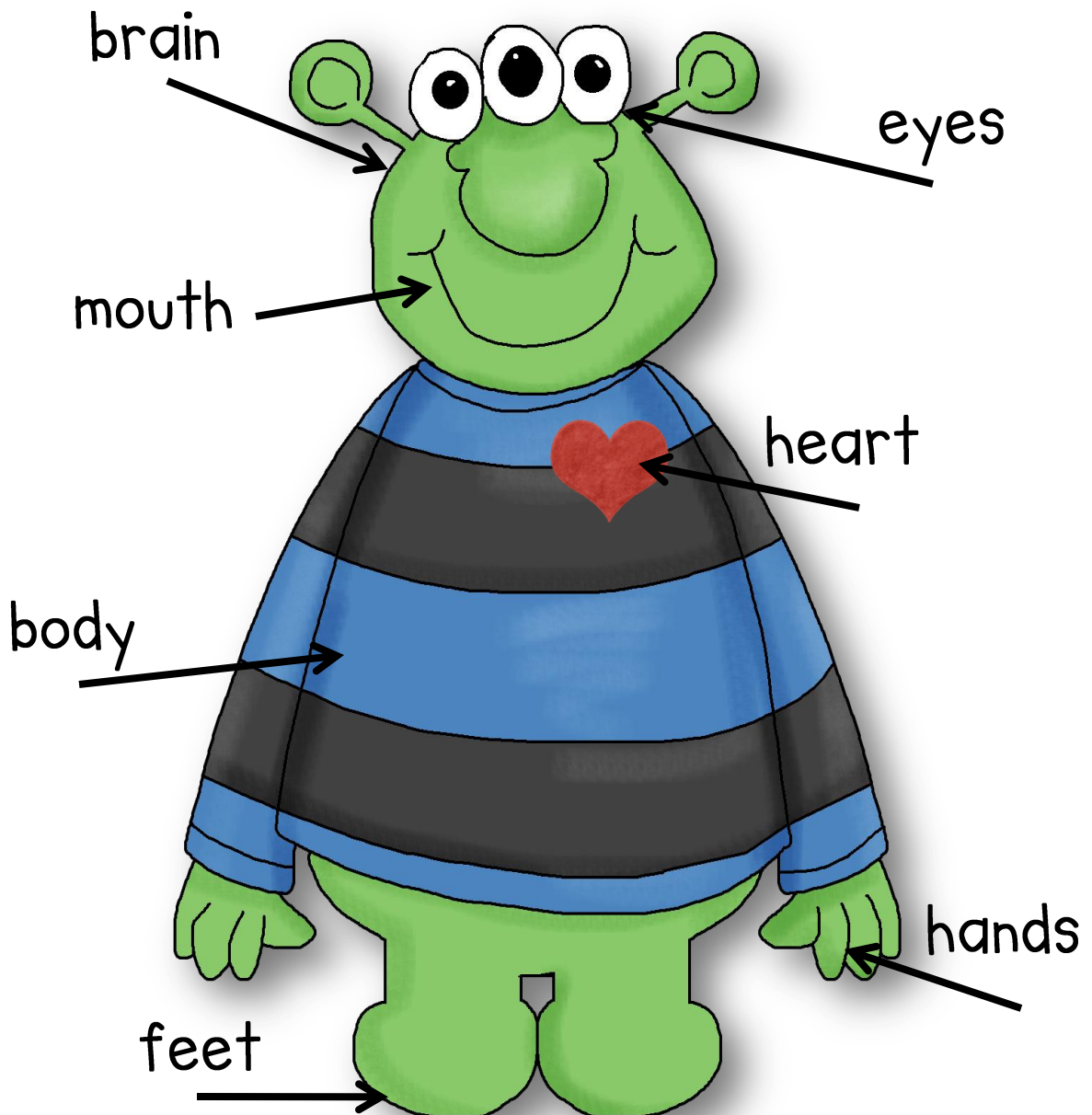
**yes! my heart is
caring about what others
say when I am listening!**

**A monster can listen
with his whole body. can
YOU?**



yes! I can!

Are you listening?



Are you listening?

POSTER

Use the poster on the previous page to hang up in your room to remind students of the expectations for listening.

To print it as a poster, do the following:

1. Go to File: Print
2. Select the page to print
3. Go to properties on the print box (same one)
4. A new window will pop up, click the tab that says "page set up"
5. On page layout, click "POSTER PRINTING"
6. Click Okay
7. It will go back to the normal print box, click okay again.

Your printer will print out 4 pages. Trim the inside edges and tape together! Mount on posterboard.

If you want a glossy poster look, use photo paper!

how can you be a good listener?

By _____



Thank you!

Thank you so much for downloading this product! I hope your students enjoy it! This item is licensed for one classroom only.

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