# Making an Impression

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## Materials
- Modeling clay
- Heavy cardboard or a baking sheet

## Behaviors
- Put-downs
- Inappropriate touching
- Hitting

## Objective
The children will begin to understand the impact verbal or physical actions have on others.

## Procedure
1. Soften a piece of modeling clay until you can make a disk about 1 inch thick and 6 inches in diameter. Place the disk on the cardboard or baking sheet.
2. Pass the clay among the children, asking each to poke a thumb into the clay.
3. When all the children are finished, using only your hands, try to make the modeling clay exactly the way it was before.
4. Ask:
   - What did we just do with the modeling clay? What happened when you poked your thumb into the clay?
   - What happened when I tried to smooth it out? Was it exactly like it was before?
   - What happens to people when we say mean words or touch them in inappropriate ways? Are they ever exactly the same as they were before?

## Hints
- This can also be reversed; discuss how positive comments make an impression.

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