

Life's Building Blocks, Inc.  
 Making Character Development Fun



**Adult Guide • What Would Zaki Do?**

**What Would Zaki Do? – Product Overview:**

This fun family board game subtly teaches kids about morals and character. Specifically:

1. It puts the players in many difficult moral dilemmas.
2. It uses the Spruce Street Six, a group of kids who each have a dominant virtue, to demonstrate how our virtues need to be used properly to be a good person. It also shows that we need to possess all of the virtues to make a truly right decision.
3. It asks each player to explain what he or she would do in that situation and why.
4. It illustrates the real world problem of competing virtues (honor vs. loyalty, justice vs. forgiveness, patience vs. perseverance).
5. It rewards the players with “virtue tiles” to demonstrate that we need to build our character to be a good person.

**Adult questions for What Would Zaki Do?:**

**Story: School Days**

*Introduction:* The Spruce Street Six Kids go to Middlebury Elementary and are trying to do their best with everyday decisions in their school.

Scenario	If the child answers A, the adult could ask:	If the child answers B, the adult could ask:
Scenario #1: The election at school <i>This scenario is about patience and honesty.</i>	“Why tell the teacher? It doesn’t change anything that Jessica saw the results.” “What do you think the teacher will do when Jessica tells her?”	“Why not tell the teacher?” “Wasn’t her desk a private place?” “What would happen if the teacher found out that Jessica saw the results and didn’t tell her?”
Scenario #2: Taking the test <i>This scenario is about honesty and judgment.</i>	“But isn’t that cheating when Jake looks at someone else’s work?” “Is it fair to the rest of the students that Jake looked at Kind Shawnie’s paper?”	“Why should he leave the question blank? He probably knew the right answer anyway.” “Are you concerned that Jake might fail the test now?”
Scenario #3: The broken vase <i>This scenario is about honesty, loyalty, and peer pressure.</i>	“Why should Jarrett tell the teacher?” “Are you concerned that the class will think Jarrett is a tattletale?”	“Why won’t you tell the teacher the truth?” “Doesn’t the teacher deserve to know the truth?”
Scenario #4: Asking a friend over to study <i>This scenario is about honesty and kindness.</i>	“Isn’t this telling a lie?” “Shouldn’t Lauren tell Tiffany the truth?”	“Isn’t that going to make Tiffany feel bad?” “Should Lauren try not to hurt Tiffany’s feelings?”
Scenario #5: Biff and the 1st grader <i>This scenario is about bravery, judgment, and kindness.</i>	“Shouldn’t Jarrett tell a teacher, rather than get himself hurt?” “Why should Jarrett get involved at all?”	“Should Jarrett let Biff get away with this?” “Should we try to stop the bully from being a bully?” “Will Jarrett want to do the same thing the next time Biff steals the lunch?”

### Adult Questions for What Would Zaki Do?:

As the children think about which answer to choose (A or B), they need to consider all factors involved with the decision. The adult can help them by:

- ✓ pointing out other factors
- ✓ asking them simple questions to challenge their answers
- ✓ asking them to comment on the other players' answers ("Do you agree with \_\_\_?")
- ✓ facilitating a short discussion to allow others to comment

The adult should not judge the child's answer, but instead should challenge his or her answer. The questions below go scenario by scenario and will assist the adult in creating a Life's Building Blocks "teachable moment" provided via the What Would Zaki Do? boardgame.

### Adult questions for What Would Zaki Do?:

#### Story: The Spooky Mansion

*Introduction:* Biff the bully stole something from everyone in the Spruce Street Six. Then he hid their things in the Spooky Mansion. Now they must search the mansion to find their missing stuff.

Scenario	If the child answers A, the adult could ask:	If the child answers B, the adult could ask:
Scenario #1: The Lucky Soccer Ball <i>This scenario is about honesty and kindness.</i>	"Why do you think Shawnie should tell Jarrett the truth about what happened to his soccer ball?" "How will Jarrett feel when he finds out his ball is not lucky anymore?"	"Is it ever okay to hide the truth from a friend?" "If you were Jarrett, would you want to know the truth?"
Scenario #2: The Sheet Music <i>This scenario is about fairness and kindness.</i>	"Why do you think all the members of the Spruce Street Six deserve some of the money?" "How do you think Shawnie will feel when she finds out her sheet music was ruined?"	"Is it fair to replace Shawnie's lost item, but no one else's?" "If one of your friends found some money, would you expect him or her to share it with you?"
Scenario #3: Biff's Secret Crush <i>This scenario is about kindness and justice.</i>	"Does Biff deserve kindness when he is such a mean bully?" "Should Jarrett give up this chance to get back all of his friends' stolen things?"	"Would you want people to know about your secret crush?" "Is it okay to do something bad or mean to make something good happen?"
Scenario #4: Rex's Leash <i>This scenario is about kindness, justice, fairness, and bravery.</i>	"Would you want someone to tell your Mom or Dad about something bad that you did?" "What should Lauren do if Biff's mom gets angry with her for accusing Biff of stealing?"	"Why shouldn't Lauren confront Biff in front of his mother?" "What should Lauren do if Biff denies that the leash she saw was Rex's?"
Scenario #5: Jessica's Diary <i>This scenario is about honesty and kindness.</i>	"How do you think Jessica will feel when she finds out that Jarrett read her secrets?" "If you were Jessica, would you want to know that someone read your private diary?"	"Is it ever okay to keep the truth from a friend?" "Does Jessica deserve to know the truth?" "If you were Jessica, would you want to know the truth?"

### Adult questions for What Would Zaki Do?:

#### Story: Winning the Middlebury Championship

*Introduction:* It's time for the Middlebury Soccer Tournament. The Spruce Street Six Kids have entered again this year. Last year, they finished in second place. This year they want to win the trophy.

Scenario	If the child answers A, the adult could ask:	If the child answers B, the adult could ask:
Scenario #1: The starting line-up <i>This scenario is about loyalty, winning, and fairness.</i>	"Is that fair to Jarrett, since they would not have even had a team at the Tournament if not for him?"	"Isn't the idea to win the game?" "Shouldn't you field your best team?" "Is that fair to Jarrett, who has practiced to become a good player?"
Scenario #2: The secret play <i>This scenario is about honesty and loyalty.</i>	"Should Carlos be listening in on their meeting?" "Would you want the other team listening to your team meeting?" "Is loyalty to your team always more important than honesty?"	"Shouldn't the kids use all possible means to win the game?" "What's wrong with using all possible means to win a game?" "Is honesty more important than loyalty to your team?"
Scenario #3: The injured wrist <i>This scenario is about courage, judgment, and persistence.</i>	"Is it a good idea to play when you're in pain?" "Isn't pain your body telling you to be careful?"	"Shouldn't she be loyal and give everything she has to the team?" "What's wrong with doing whatever you have to do to win?" "Isn't winning everything?"
Scenario #4: The trick play <i>This scenario is about fairness and winning.</i>	"But didn't they use trickery and deception?" "Is that really the way the game of soccer is supposed to played?" "What if everyone played like that?"	"But didn't they break any rules of soccer?" "If you could score a goal like that to take the lead, would you?"
Scenario #5: The sore loser <i>This scenario is about kindness and self-control.</i>	"Why should the other player get away with saying that?" "Shouldn't you correct his behavior?"	"Why not just take the high road and ignore the comment?" "Aren't you just stooping to his level?"

## Adult questions for What Would Zaki Do?:

### Story: *Earning Money*

*Introduction:* It's Saturday morning and the Spruce Street Six are trying to earn \$20. They want to buy paint and supplies so they can paint the front porch of Mrs. Johnson, the elderly widow.

Scenario	If the child answers A, the adult could ask:	If the child answers B, the adult could ask:
Scenario #1: Putting in their money <i>This scenario is about fairness and kindness.</i>	"Shouldn't they be more generous and give all they have for the good deed?" "If you have more money, shouldn't you contribute more?"	"Why should they put in different amounts?" "Is that fair to make some put in more than others?"
Scenario #2 : Biff the bully <i>This scenario is about courage and fairness.</i>	"If Jarrett gives Biff the money, isn't he just rewarding his poor behavior?" "Shouldn't Jarrett stand up for what is right?"	"Can we solve things with our fists?" "Aren't you just lowering yourself to Biff's level?"
Scenario #3: The security officer <i>This scenario is about courage, self-control, and fairness.</i>	"Why should they have to move if they aren't doing anything wrong?" "What might happen to them if they don't move as they are told?"	"Shouldn't you always do what authority figures tell you?" "Why do you think the officer doesn't want children in the store without their parents?"
Scenario #4: The ice cream man <i>This scenario is about honesty and courage.</i>	"Does that dollar really belong to them?" "Why should they keep the dollar?" "What if everyone kept money from their employer?"	"Didn't they earn the money by helping?" "Aren't they trying to do a good deed?"
Scenario #5: Painting the porch <i>This scenario is about persistence, kindness, and fairness.</i>	"Why should Lauren keep painting when everyone else left?" "Is that really fair to Lauren?"	"Isn't the goal to get the porch painted?" "If this is a good deed, why does it matter if Lauren is the only one there still painting?"