

POWER PRINCIPLE #4:

**BE SMART
AND COOL**

Be Smart and Cool

Being smart is actually really fun. When you're smart, you can earn good grades, participate in competitions, and win cool prizes. When you're smart, you can do well in school, play sports, and enjoy other extracurricular activities and hobbies. When you're smart, you have many more privileges. In the future, what do you see yourself doing? Maybe you want to be a lawyer, a doctor, an engineer, or a professional athlete. You need to earn good grades to accomplish any of these things, so you should always pay attention in class and work hard to learn the material. So being smart is very cool because it helps you achieve your goals in life and live the type of life you desire. Never allow others to make you feel bad because you're smart, and never try to impress others by pretending that you aren't smart. If you are smart, be thankful and use these abilities to do well and help others to do well in life. If you feel that you aren't smart, it is never too late to begin working towards being smarter. You can become smarter just by learning new things each day.

POWER STORY

Rey plays on the baseball team; all of his teammates call the really smart kids in his school nerds. Rey thinks he would enjoy participating in the spelling bee, the math bee, and the geography bee. However, his grades aren't the best, and he's afraid of what his teammates will say to him.

So Rey asked his math teacher, language arts teacher, and geography teacher if they could help him study and get ready for those competitions. Rey missed a few baseball practices, and his teammates started asking why he hadn't been coming to practice.

After that, Rey told his teammates that he was studying for the spelling bee, the math bee, and the geography bee. His teammates didn't make fun of him. Instead, they supported him. So after practice they all went to Rey's house to help him study.

POWER ADVOCATE'S ADVICE

You can be smart and play sports or do whatever hobbies you like to do. Being smart and learning new things is very important to long-term success in life. Just remember, always challenge yourself to learn

new things, listen in class, study for your tests, work hard, and never doubt yourself.

Advice from the Bus Buddies:

- It is cool to be smart.
- Never stop learning; try to learn something new each day.
- Think about your future and what you want for yourself and your children.

POWER DILEMMA

Antonio is in 7th grade, and he lives in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Antonio plays baseball, plays guitar, and is in all honors classes. He has a lot of friends, and today in the lunch room his friends told him that being smart means that he's a nerd. What should Antonio say to them?

POWER QUESTIONS:

1. Are you pleased with the grades you earn in school?

2. When students at your school earn good grades, do others ever make fun of them?
