THE EMPTY POT  by Demi

This is a fun craft that can be used in conjunction with the book “The Empty Pot” By Demi. These are great as a class activity, a bulletin board display, or for an oral presentation.

Flower pot template has been included for your convenience.

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THE STORY: A young boy, Ping, loves gardening and has a green thumb with flowers. The king announces a contest to see who can grow the most beautiful flower from seeds he provides, the winner to become his heir to the throne. Ping enters and tries everything, but cannot get his seed to sprout. When the time comes to present their flowers to the king, everyone else has beautiful and grand flowers, but Ping can only bring an empty pot. The king calls Ping forward and announces that the seeds everyone was given had been cooked to prevent them from sprouting. He rewards Ping’s honesty by making him the heir to his throne.

SUGGESTED LESSON PLAN
This is an opportunity to talk with your class about being honest and truthful in all you say and do. You can discuss how they should maintain strict integrity in school and at home. Do they use money, things they have borrowed or information entrusted to them with discretion and responsibility? Do they have courage to do the right thing? Are they a good person of character?

INSTRUCTIONS: Color the flower pot and flower and have the kids add their own words to the flower petals the describe being a person of good character.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
1. Why do you think the king set up this contest?
2. I wonder where the flowers grown by the other children came from.
3. How do you suppose Ping felt when he brought an empty pot?
4. Have you ever felt like Ping did?
5. How did the king feel about Ping and about the other children?
6. Have there been times when you were tempted to be dishonest in order to look better to others?