What is honesty?

When you think of honesty, you might think “don’t lie”. But being honest also means only saying and doing things that are truthful. Here are a few good signs that an action is not honest:

- Saying something that is not true.
- Hiding the truth because you know it’s wrong or you’ll get in trouble.
- Doing it is considered morally wrong (like cheating or stealing).

In these situations, which actions are honest?

1. You broke a table. Your mom asks who broke the table.

[ ] You tell her you did it.

[ ] You say you don’t know what happened.

2. You really want to play with a friend’s toy at your house.

[ ] You slip the toy in your backpack and figure you’ll put it back tomorrow. As long as he doesn’t find out, you didn’t lie.

[ ] You ask to borrow the toy.

3. Your mom said you could play computer for 30 minutes and set a timer.

[ ] When the time is almost up, you secretly add more time on the timer so you can keep playing.

[ ] You stop playing when the timer rings.

4. You went to Jenny’s to play, and then went to Harry’s without asking. When your dad asks, “Whose house did you play at today?”

[ ] You say, “I played at Jenny’s.”

[ ] You say, “I played and Jenny’s and Harry’s.