

Celebrate Character

CHARACTER is who a person is on the inside. A person's beliefs and actions show others his or her character. Respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, perseverance, fairness, and caring, are qualities of good character. Character is who we are.

LESSON 1

Review the meaning of **CHARACTER** with the class. Have the students recall qualities that show good character, such as respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Record the qualities on the board. Have students write three sentences telling how they will demonstrate good character today at school. As time allows, invite students to read their sentences aloud.

***School/Home Link** Tell students to read their sentence to a family member and ask that family member how he or she showed **good character** at home or at work today.*

LESSON 2

Ask the class to recall the meaning of **RESPECT**. Tell the class that it is important to show respect for those in authority. Ask students to think of people in positions of authority, such as their teacher, the school principal, a store owner, a boss, etc. Instruct students to list ways to show respect for those in authority. Some examples of showing respect are: listening attentively, being polite, and addressing adults with a title. Tell students to choose a partner and share ways that respect can be shown.

***School/Home Link** Tell students to discuss ways they can show **respect** to people in authority with a family member.*

LESSON 3

Ask the class to recall the meaning of **RESPONSIBILITY**. Emphasize that responsibility means doing the right thing. Explain that the student's job is to go to school and learn, do homework, and to take good care of their things. Tell students to act out something showing how they are responsible in one of their jobs at school. (Examples: Doing class work, cleaning board, keeping desk orderly, etc.)

Ask classmates to guess the activity. Encourage applause when they guess the activity correctly.

***School/Home Link** Tell students to ask a family member how they show **responsibility** in their job at work or at home.*

LESSON 4

Ask the class to recall the meaning of **TRUSTWORTHINESS**.

Review that a trustworthy person is reliable and truthful. Ask the class to think about some classic fairy tales that have characters who are trustworthy or are not trustworthy, such as the wolf from Little Red Riding Hood. Ask students to identify other fairy tale characters who show trustworthiness. List the character and story on the board and discuss how the character was or was not trustworthy in the story.

***School/Home Link** Tell students to discuss situations in everyday life where they **trust** others, such as riding in a school bus, buying a snack, etc. with a family member.*

LESSON 5

Review the meaning of **CITIZENSHIP** with the class. Brainstorm with the class for good citizenship words, such as helpful, concerned, caring, etc. Record responses on the board. Have students make a good citizen card. Instruct students to fold a sheet of paper in half. Instruct students to write: "A Good Citizen is..." on the outside cover of the sheet of paper. Direct the students to write one good citizenship word from the board on the outside of the card. As time allows, have students draw a picture of a good citizenship inside the card.

***School/Home Link** Tell students to give their **good citizen card** to a family member.*