



A person of character . . .
is a good person, someone
to look up to and admire.
Knows the difference between
right and wrong and always
tries to do what is right.
Sets a good example for everyone.
Makes the world a better place.
Lives according to the
“Six Pillars of Character”

TRUSTWORTHINESS

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

FAIRNESS

CARING

& CITIZENSHIP



RESPECT



- Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule
- Be tolerant and accepting of differences
- Use good manners, not bad language
- Be considerate of the feelings of others
- Don't threaten, hit, or hurt anyone
- Deal peacefully with anger, insults, and disagreements

Respect



Date

Think About This

___/___

Respect is earned. Honesty is appreciated. Trust is gained. Loyalty is returned.

___/___

Seek respect, not attention. It lasts longer.

___/___

The way you treat people says a lot about who you are. Be careful. Your actions are screaming over your words.

Date

Questions

___/___

How important is respect in our lives? Why?

___/___

You don't have to like someone to respect him or her. Do you agree? Why or why not?

___/___

Describe one person you respect in your life. What does this person do to earn your respect?

Date

Situations

___/___

Your three-year old brother goes into your room and throws your card collection all over the floor, chewing up and tearing some of the cards. What might you do to show respect to your brother *and* help him learn to have respect for your things?

___/___

You're walking by the bus stop and your friend pulls out a bright red marker and starts drawing on the bench. What might happen if you try to stop your friend from drawing on the bench? If you don't? What might you do to show your friend you respect her and help her respect public property, too?



RESPONSIBILITY



- Do what you are supposed to do
- Plan ahead
- Persevere: keep on trying!
- Always do your best
- Use self-control
- Be self-disciplined
- Think before you act — consider the consequences
- Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes
- Set a good example for others

Responsibility



Date

Think About This

___/___

Say what you mean but don't say it mean.

___/___

You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today. *Abraham Lincoln*

___/___

"I'm sorry" is a statement. "I won't do it again" is a promise. "How do I make it up to you?" is a responsibility.

Date

Questions

___/___

What does "taking responsibility" mean?

___/___

Has anybody ever caused problems for you by being irresponsible? Have you ever caused problems for somebody else by being irresponsible? What happened? Would you do things differently if you had another chance?

___/___

Sticks and stones may break my bones, but names will never hurt me. Is this true?

Date

Situations

___/___

It's your final soccer game of the season, but you also have two pages of math homework. You don't think you will have time to do both. Should you go to your soccer game and forget about your math? How would you handle this and be responsible?

___/___

Your teacher asks if anyone has an empty shoebox to bring for the class tomorrow. You say you will, but when you get home, your mom has thrown it out and you don't have another one. You get angry because you think your mom is making you look irresponsible – you don't have the shoebox, and you become upset. How would you handle this situation?



CARING



- Be kind
- Be compassionate and show you care
- Express gratitude
- Forgive others
- Help people in need

Caring



Date

Think About This

___/___

If you can't think of anything nice to say, you're not thinking hard enough.
Kid President

___/___

You may be pretty, and you may be talented, but nobody will remember that if you're mean. *Katie Holmes*

___/___

Be somebody who makes everybody feel like a somebody. *Kid President*

Date

Questions

___/___

What makes people care about others?

___/___

Do you consider yourself a caring person? In what ways?

___/___

One way to show you are a caring person is to perform random acts of kindness. Example: emptying the dishwasher before being asked, feeding the dog, helping your sister with her homework, etc. What random act of kindness can you do by tomorrow?

Date

Situations

___/___

Your brother never puts his toy trucks away, so you decide to do something nice for him. You start to put his trucks away every night before you go to bed. You're doing something kind for your brother, but are you really helping him? Why or why not? What is another way to show you care?

___/___

A friend of yours gets a haircut. They come to school the next day and they ask you if you like it. Honestly, you don't. What would you tell your friend?



FAIRNESS



- Play by the rules
- Take turns and share
- Be open-minded; listen to others
- Don't take advantage of others
- Don't blame others carelessly
- Treat all people fairly

Fairness



Date

Think About This

___/___

We tend to judge others by their behavior and ourselves by our intentions.
Albert F Schlieder

___/___

Fair isn't everybody getting the same thing. Fair is everybody getting what they need in order to be successful.

___/___

If you expect the world to be fair with you because you are fair, you're fooling yourself. That's like expecting the lion not to eat you because you didn't eat him.

Date

Questions

___/___

How do you know when something is unfair?

___/___

Does being fair mean you always treat people equally?

___/___

If you had a chance to serve on a teen court, do you think you would be able to make fair decisions? What if the person you were reviewing was a friend of yours?

Date

Situations

___/___

Your mom promises to take you and your friend to an amusement park for your birthday. You can't wait to go on the roller coaster and all kinds of other fun rides. But on your birthday, you wake up and see dark clouds in the sky. It looks like it's going to be a rainy day. Your mom says, "I think we should save the amusement park for another day. It won't be fun if it rains." You cry. "That's not fair! You promised." Is your mom being unfair? Is there something you and your mom could do to help make things fair for everybody?

___/___

Your friend lives in a house with a yard. You live in an apartment. Your friend has a dog. You want a dog but your apartment doesn't allow pets. That's not fair. Do you agree or disagree?



TRUSTWORTHINESS



- Be honest
- Don't deceive, cheat, or steal
- Be reliable — do what you say you'll do
- Have the courage to do the right thing
- Build a good reputation
- Be loyal — stand by your family, friends, and country

Trustworthiness



Date

Think About This

___/___

People with good intentions make promises. People with good character keep them.

___/___

The time is always right to do what is right. – Martin Luther King Jr

___/___

Do what is right, not what is easy.

Date

Questions

___/___

How do you know when you can trust someone?

___/___

How do you define a "lie"?

___/___

What part does trust play in your relationships with your friends and family? How would these relationships be affected if you found out someone was lying to you?

Date

Situations

___/___

Telling the truth gets trickier when we know we may hurt someone in the process. The person that sits next to you in math class looks at your paper when you are taking a test. What do you do?

What if the person brags all the time about getting good grades?

What if that person was your best friend?

Should your actions change depending upon the person?

___/___

At a grocery store, you pay the cashier and he gives you back too much change. There's a long line of people waiting, and you can tell the cashier wants you to hurry. Should you tell him and return the extra change?

Would it depend on how much money you got back?

Would you tell him if he gave you a nickel too much? A dollar? Ten dollars?

How would you decide?



CITIZENSHIP



- Do your share to make your school and community better
- Cooperate
- Get involved in community affairs
- Stay informed; vote
- Be a good neighbor
- Obey laws and rules
- Respect authority
- Protect the environment
- Volunteer

Citizenship



Date

Think About This

___/___

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world. *Anne Frank*

___/___

The future depends entirely on what each of us does every day. *Gloria Steinem*

___/___

Working together is like making a word. If one of the letters is missing, the word just won't make sense.

Date

Questions

___/___

What are you citizens of? *World, country, state, city, community, school, family.* Name some ways you can be a good citizen of each.

___/___

What sorts of things have you done that make the world a little bit better?

___/___

What makes someone a good citizen?

Date

Situations

___/___

Your best friend has a dog named Bailey. You really love Bailey. You know that your friend is in charge of feeding him and giving him fresh water. But you also see that your friend doesn't always take good care of Bailey. Sometimes the food in the dog dish is crusty. Sometimes the water dish is empty. If you are a good citizen, do you have a responsibility to do anything? If so, what? If not, why?

___/___

You and your family just learned that the after school program you go to may soon close. The director sent a letter that says there's not enough money to keep it going. You know that you are not the only kid whose parents aren't home when school gets out. You and your classmates need a safe place to play and learn after school. As good citizens, what can you and your family do?