



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



CARING



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

Caring



Date

Think About This

_____ At the end of the day, people won't remember what you said or did, they will remember how you made them feel.
Maya Angelou

_____ One kind word can change someone's entire day.
Author unknown

_____ The quieter you become, the more you can hear.
Author unknown

Questions

_____ Someone calls you stupid and this makes you angry. Then they say they are sorry. Are you able to forgive them? Is it hard to forgive?

_____ Have you ever had a time when you went out of your way to help someone and they did not take the time to thank you? How did that feel? Do you always take the time to be thankful?

_____ You are in a hurry and almost knock over a younger student in the hallway. You did not mean to do it. Is it important to stop and let them know you are sorry? Do you think about how your actions affect others?

Situations

_____ Your class is holding a food drive to help poor families. You check with your family, friends and neighbors and ask them to donate canned and paper goods to the food drive. You collect more items than anybody in your class. How does this make you feel? Why is it important to help those in need?

_____ Jenna is a new student in your class. Your best friend Melissa now spends more time with Jenna than with you. You are jealous. What are some positive things that you can do to make this situation better? There is a saying that "if you want a friend, you need to be a friend." Could all three of you become friends?



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

_____ Leadership cannot really be taught. It can only be learned.
Harold Geneen

_____ Oh the wonderful way you'll feel, you hear? If you just go out and
volunteer. *Dr. Seuss*

_____ Leave everything a bit better than you found it.
Author unknown

Questions/Activities

_____ Do you think children can help make the earth a better place to live? Can
you think of ways that you can help to clean up the environment where
you live? (e.g. recycle, don't waste water, don't litter etc.)

_____ What does it mean to play by the rules? What happens when some
people play by the rules and others don't? Can you imagine what the
world would be like if there were no rules?

_____ Can you think of ways that you and your classmates can make the after
school program a happier place to be? Activity: Have a shoebox with
slips of paper available so that students can put their ideas down and
then put them in the box (e.g. smile at the student next to you, stop and
listen when someone is talking, stand up to someone bullying another
student, etc.)

Situations

_____ There is a new girl in your class and she looks different than anybody
else. She also does not speak English very well. The other children are
making fun of her on the playground. As a good citizen and representative
of your school what should you do?

_____ Your teacher announces that there is a toy drive for needy children in your
area. You know that your parents are on a tight budget and that you
probably cannot bring in a toy. Do you ignore the toy drive? Can you
think of other ways you could help besides bringing in a



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

- _____ People may doubt what you say but they will always believe what you do.
Lewis Cass
- _____ It is not fair to ask of others what you are unwilling to do yourself.
Eleanor Roosevelt
- _____ Right is right even if no one is doing it; wrong is wrong even if everyone is doing it. *Saint Augustine*

Questions

- _____ Is it polite to talk over someone or just ignore them because we don't think that they have anything important to say? Is this judging the other person?
- _____ Your teacher puts out a large box of decorated pencils for the class to share. Your teacher says to take one and then to leave the rest for when someone does not have a pencil in the future. You are always losing your pencils so you take two and then go back and get one more in the afternoon. Is this right?
- _____ What is one thing that you could do to make your classroom a better place, where all students are treated with fairness and respect?

Situations

- _____ You received a new video game over the holidays and you have been playing it for over a week. You really like to win when you are playing against another person. So, when your friend comes over, you challenge him to a game. You tell him how to play but don't share any of the neat ways that you have learned to score lots of points. Is this fair? How does your friend feel after losing several games? How would you feel if you were in your friend's position?
- _____ When choosing team members for a tag game, no one wants to pick Amelia because she isn't a good runner. You have been selected to be the team captain and when it is time to pick the last team member you pick Amelia, but you make a mean comment about how slow she runs. How do you think Amelia feels about what you said? Would you want someone to embarrass you like that? You may be good at tag, but you probably aren't good at everything.



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

- _____ It is not only what you say but how you say it.
Author Unknown
- _____ A person is a person, no matter how small.
Dr. Seuss
- _____ Respect yourself and others will respect you.
Confucius

Questions

- _____ How do you feel if someone does not take the time to listen to you when you are talking? Do you take the time to listen when others are speaking?
- _____ You say something nice such as - "You did a good job." Yet, your tone of voice is really mean. Do you think the other person believes the words you said?
- _____ Do manners matter all of the time or just when you know someone is watching?

Situations

- _____ There is a new student in your class and people are making fun of her because she has an accent and her words sound different than the other people in your class. While you don't make fun of her, you don't do anything to stop your friends from being mean to her. Have you done the right thing?
- _____ Lunch time at your school is really busy. When you buy your lunch, you barely have time to eat it. You are in a hurry as you go through the cafeteria line, so you don't take the time to be polite and use your manners. Do you think that it makes any difference that you did not take the time to say "please" and "thank you" to the cafeteria workers who are serving you lunch? How would you want to be treated?



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

_____ It's always too soon to quit.
Norman Vincent Peale

_____ By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.
Benjamin Franklin

_____ If you mess up, "fess up."
Author Unknown

Questions

_____ Do you think that it is important to work hard and not give up when you are trying to learn something new?

_____ Are you willing to be truthful and admit when you have made a mistake? Do you think that everyone makes mistakes?

_____ Are having chores in the classroom and at home a good thing? Do you think you can learn anything from doing your chores well?

Situations

_____ Your art project was due last week and you turned it in late because you really did not feel like doing it. Now you are complaining because your art teacher says that while she really likes your art project, you will receive a lower grade because you missed the due date. Do you have a right to be upset? Should you accept the consequence of a lower grade because you did not meet the deadline?

_____ Your teacher is doing a lesson on setting goals. She wants each student to make a list of ways to improve behavior in the classroom. Where would you start? Would you only list things that other students could do better or would you start by listing things that you could improve? Always start with the things you can change, which is mostly your own behavior.



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

- _____ It takes less time to do it right, than it does to explain why you did it wrong.
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- _____ Just keep swimming.
*Dory in **Finding Nemo***
- _____ If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.
Mark Twain

Questions

- _____ Do you think it is okay to tell a little lie? Is there such a thing as a little lie?
- _____ Think of someone that you trust. Why do you trust them?
- _____ Is it important to be reliable and keep your word?

Situations

- _____ You want to go out to play, but you have a lot of homework. You do your homework in a hurry and it is so sloppy you can hardly read it. But you say to yourself, at least I did it. Are you being honest with yourself? Did you really do your best? Would you want this homework to be displayed on a bulletin board at school? Think about how important it is to be trustworthy and to do a good job.
- _____ Your teacher asks for volunteers to stay after school next Tuesday to help clean up the classroom. You check with your parents and then volunteer to help. On the day you are supposed to help, a friend invites you to the movies with his family. You really want to see this new movie and you are trying to decide what to do. Do you think it is okay to back out of helping your teacher clean up the classroom? Should you keep your promise and stay at school? How would you handle this situation?