



CHARACTER COUNTS!

Responsibility Pillar

Activity Quickies

Upper Elementary Activities

What's Their Responsibility?

Have students choose a person they know, such as a policeman, principal or fast food worker and write down what they think that person's responsibilities are at work. Then have them interview that person. After the interview, have the student compare their written responsibilities with the workers responses. What did they have correct, what did they not know?

Source: Character Education Informational Handbook & Guide, 2002

I'll Do That

Often times we take for granted when our meals are on the table or the laundry is always put back in our drawers. To better understand the responsibilities at their home have your students assume a new home responsibility. Have them write a paragraph about the new responsibility and what it involves. A new responsibility could be making supper one night, doing the laundry, etc.

Source: Character Education Informational Handbook & Guide, 2002

Self-control VS Consequences

Have students pay close attention to every situation today and write down every time

they see someone practicing good self-control. What were the consequences? On the second day have the students watch every situation and write down every time they saw someone lose their self-control. What were the consequences? In class have a discussion on their findings.

Source: Character Education Informational Handbook & Guide, 2002

Who's Responsibility Is It?

For one week have the students make a list of TV shows they watch. Have them make a note of when a character was being responsible. Or have them keep track of how many responsible acts they saw and how many irresponsible acts they saw. In class have the students describe the shows they watched and explain a time when a character was being responsible or irresponsible.

Discussion Questions: Does the media have responsibility to merely entertain or should it also teach the public by giving examples of good character? How do you feel when a character gets away with poor moral choices? How does the media influence our society? How can you influence programming?

Source: Spotlight On Character: Plays That Show Character Counts!, Grade 4-5.

Lower Elementary Activities





The Responsible Character Is . . .

Read a children's story in which one or more characters demonstrate responsible behavior. As you read point out instances of responsible and irresponsible behavior and discuss them. When you are finished reading the story have the students draw a picture of one of the character's responsible actions. Then have them write a sentence or paragraph describing the responsible action and how they feel about it. Display the posters along with a banner that reads "The Responsible Character Is . . ."

Source: Character Education Informational Handbook & Guide, 2002

Do Your Best In All You Do!

What would happen if the workers who built the school didn't do their best work? Have students name different community workers. What would happen if they did not do their best work? What would happen if you did not do your best work at school? Give a form (that is below) to each student to tape to his/her desk. Throughout the day call out "Are you doing your best work?" Have them put a tally next to the sentence that best describes the work they are doing.

	I am doing my best work!
	I am doing good work.
	I am doing OK work.
	I am not trying hard enough.

Source: Spotlight On Character: Plays That Show Character Counts!, 1999.

What's Your Temperature?

A responsible person does tasks without being asked. At the beginning of the week have students make a list of responsibilities they have at home, school or to their classmates. At the end of the week give each student 3 thermometers. Label thermometers: "Job Completed on Own"; "Had to Be Reminded"; "Job Not Done". Have the students recall the jobs they did and color in a block on the appropriate thermometer. The thermometers show each student how responsible they are. If they have had to be reminded or just didn't do a job have them think of ways they can improve to become more responsible.

Source: Missouri 4-H Show Me Character All Stars

Don't Be A Blamer!

Taking responsibility for one's own actions is important for children to learn. Some people have trouble with this and they blame others when something goes wrong. Have the children think of times when someone else blamed others rather than taking responsibility (do not have them use the person's name). Have them make a picture of what the blamer would do and another picture of what a responsible person would do. Example: I was late for school because my mother wouldn't drive me. Picture 1: Someone walking to school. I was late for school because I was playing when I should have been dressing. Picture 2: A person playing.

Source: Spotlight On Character: Plays That Show Character Counts!, 1999.