

Character Education

Kim Sager & Deana Tompkins

*“To educate a person in the mind but
not the morals is to educate a
menace to society”*

Theodore Roosevelt

What is Character Education?

- Character education is about teaching young people to know, accept, and live up to their moral duties and obligations.
- It is about teaching young people to make sound moral judgements or good ethical decisions.

Why is Character Education Important?

- It enables youth to express their emotions through positive means of action or behavior.
- It gives youth the vision of a positive future and teaches them to be involved, caring citizens with good moral character.
- *“We pay a price when we deprive children of the exposure to the values, principles, and education they need to make them good citizens.”* -Sandra Day O’Connor

How to Teach Character Education

- There must be experienced/trained adults or teen leaders to be the teachers.
- Use activities, examples, stories, etc. as simple teaching tools.
- Involve the participants in discussion of the activities and their importance.

CHARACTER COUNTS!

- Nationwide program based on six core values
- Trustworthiness
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Fairness
- Caring
- Citizenship

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.

Respect

- Treat others with respect; follow the golden rule.
- Be tolerant 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.

Responsibility

- Do what you are supposed to do.
- 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 choices.

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.

Caring

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

Citizenship

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

Contact Information

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