



Curriculum Integration

What is *WiseSkills*?

WiseSkills is a comprehensive character-building program that equips young people with the critical character qualities they need to be successful. *WiseSkills* includes three separate, yet interconnected, components that help schools, families, and communities cultivate good character in young people.

Throughout the history of American schooling, academic *knowledge* was taught alongside discussions about how to apply this knowledge in positive and beneficial ways. This combining of intellectual *knowledge* with character *wisdom* is the foundation of the *WiseSkills* program. Because demonstrating good character relates to all areas of life, including *literature, history, science, civics, sports, and health*, the distinctive approach of *WiseSkills* is to help educators connect their existing subject area content to relevant character issues.

Unlike other character education curricula, *WiseSkills* does not require a dedicated time for character education. While the program does include separate 10-15 minute character activities, *WiseSkills* is unique in providing teachers with practical ideas for connecting each schoolwide *Character Theme* directly to subject areas. Suggestions in *WiseSkills* are not added academic lessons; rather, they are simple ways teachers can help students consider the moral and ethical issues raised by the material they are already studying. This allows an entire school to focus on each *Character Theme* and have students learn about how this principle of character touches all areas of life. The chart below highlights how *WiseSkills* helps teachers integrate character education into each subject.

Subject Area	Integrating <i>WiseSkills</i>
<i>Language Arts</i>	Evaluating the choices of characters in literature and the consequences; writing about the personal character of story characters and similar choices students have made.
<i>Social Studies</i>	Discussing the character of leaders in history; highlighting relevant social issues such as <i>tolerance</i> and <i>equality</i> ; understanding the meaning of democratic citizenship.
<i>Science</i>	Recognizing the positive and negative applications of scientific research and technology; finding ways to apply scientific knowledge in ways that help others.
<i>Math</i>	Discovering real-life applications of mathematics concepts, principles, and skills in ways that help others.
<i>Arts</i>	Using artistic expression to reflect on, or encourage, positive character qualities.
<i>Physical Education</i>	Highlighting good sportsmanship, working together as teams, and the importance of playing sports fairly.
<i>Foreign Language</i>	Learning relevant vocabulary and practicing simple writing exercises in the foreign language to explore character issues.
<i>Business & Careers</i>	Highlighting the moral and ethical issues that are raised in the workplace.
<i>Health</i>	Focusing on the different choices people make and the results of those choices on their social, emotional, and physical health.

WiseSkills & Curriculum Integration

To help teachers integrate character education into subject areas throughout the school year, *WiseSkills* includes ideas for *activities*, such as discussion, writing, and research, as well as ready-to-use *resources* that can be duplicated for students. *Because of the copyright on the materials, each K-8 teacher needs a curriculum notebook for their particular grade level. High schools can obtain a permanent Schoolwide License.*

The chart below lists the *resources* and *activities* in the *WiseSkills* School Component and Family Component that help teachers infuse character education into subject areas.

Subject Areas: Resources & Activities	School Component				Family Component	
	<i>WiseWords</i> (K-2)	<i>WiseQuotes</i> (3-5)	<i>WiseLives</i> (6-8)	<i>Wisdom for Life</i> (9-12)	<i>Family Wisdom</i> (K-5)	<i>Family Wisdom</i> (6-8)
<i>English/Language Arts</i>						
• Resources: Character quotes: speeches, poems, proverbs	•	•	•	•	•	•
• Resources: Biographies of authors & poets	•	•	•	•		
• Resources: Forms for writing about character quotes	•	•	•			
• Activities: Evaluating choices of characters in literature	•	•	•	•	•	•
• Activities: Applying story lessons to students' lives	•	•	•	•	•	•
<i>Social Studies</i>						
• Resources: Character quotes from multicultural figures	•	•	•	•	•	•
• Resources: Biographies of inspiring role models	•	•	•	•		
• Activities: Highlighting relevant social issues	•	•	•	•		
• Activities: Discussing the personal character of leaders	•	•	•	•	•	•
<i>Science/Mathematics</i>						
• Resources: Biographies of people in science careers	•	•	•	•		
• Resources: Forms for connecting science & character				•	•	•
• Activities: Understanding ethical implications of science	•	•	•	•		
• Activities: Applying math/science to benefit others	•	•	•	•	•	•
• Activities: Discussing the personal character of scientists	•	•	•	•		
<i>Arts</i>						
• Resources: Forms for connecting art & character issues				•	•	•
• Activities: Using the arts to reflect on positive character	•	•	•	•		
• Activities: Creating art with a social conscience				•		
<i>P. E.</i>						
• Activities: Highlighting good sportsmanship	•	•	•	•		
• Activities: Working together as teams & playing fairly	•	•	•	•		
<i>Foreign Language</i>						
• Resources: Form for highlighting character vocabulary			•	•		
• Activities: Discussing relevant character issues			•	•		
<i>Business & Careers</i>						
• Resources: Forms for career and business character issues				•		
• Activities: Discussing ethics & character on-the-job				•	•	•
<i>Health</i>						
• Activities: Connecting healthy choices & character	•	•	•	•	•	•

WiseSkills &..." are information sheets that describe different facets of the *WiseSkills* program.
For more sheets or a complete listing, call 1-888-947-3754 or e-mail info@wiseskills.com.