

Character Theme:

Respect

Respect is a critical element in all healthy relationships. When students respect others, they treat people with consideration and courtesy and do not violate them physically or verbally. Respect for others should be woven into the fabric of each student's life and characterize all of their relationships. It is a fundamental character quality that prepares students to live productive lives as they relate to and work with others.

R E S P E C T	Schoolwide activities to teach <i>Respect</i> are provided in the <i>WiseSkills Administrator's Handbook</i> .	
	<i>WiseSkill</i>	Objective
	5. Self-Respect	Students will see the importance of treating themselves with respect.
	6. Respect for Authority	Students will see the benefits of obeying their parents, teachers, and others in authority.
	7. Respect for Others	Students will understand the importance of having respect for others.
8. Tolerance	Students will see the importance of respecting and accepting people who are different from them.	

Service-Learning

- 1. Showing Respect Through Service**
Have students choose a service project in which they can demonstrate respect for others in their community.
- 2. School Landscaping**
Have students show respect for nature and their school by landscaping and planting plants in an unused area on campus.
- 3. Younger Buddies**
Assign each student a younger buddy to read with, tutor, or do other activities with. Have students write about their experiences.
- 4. International Pen Pals**
Connect students with international pen pals to engage in cross-cultural letter writing.

Media Issues

- 1. Respectful Characters? **TV****
Have students keep a TV journal to record whether characters in their favorite shows treat others with respect.
- 2. Respect in Games? **Games****
Have students write a brief description of their favorite video game and whether the game promotes respect for others.
- 3. Character Attitude **Movies****
Discuss how a character in a current movie learns in the story the importance of treating others with respect .

Respect

Language Arts

1. Journal Writing

Have students keep a journal for one week that records how they showed respect for others and how others showed respect for them.

2. Special Poem

Have each student write a poem about someone in his/her life that he/she really respects. Have students include in the poem why they respect that person.

3. Letter to an Important Person

Have students write a letter to someone they feel respected by. Have students include in the letter what the person does that makes them feel respected.

4. Characters in Literature

Discuss how the characters in literature students are reading show or don't show respect for others.

5. Character Portraits

Have students write portraits of characters in stories they have read who showed respect for others.

6. Chapter Rewrite

Have each student choose a character in a book who does not show respect for others. Then have each student rewrite a chapter of the book and have that character choose to show respect for others in the chapter.

7. Whom Do I Feel Respected By?

Have students write about a person in their life that they feel respected by. Have students include what the person does that makes them feel respected.

Social Studies

1. Character Biographies

Have students write biographies of people they are studying, highlighting how those people showed respect for others during their lives.

2. Respect Survey

Have students take a survey of friends, family members, and neighbors about what they think respect means and why it is important. Then have students write their findings in a short essay or paragraph.

3. Respect Actions

Have the class come up with a list of actions that show respect for others and post it in the classroom.

4. Respect in History

Discuss an historical issue or problem students have been studying and how that issue relates to the principle of respect. Have students write an essay explaining how they think people could have shown respect for others during that time period.

5. Historical Issue

Discuss an historical problem or issue you have been studying. Have students write about ways they could have dealt with that problem or issue with a positive attitude if they had been alive during that time period.

6. Current Events

Have students discuss with the class current events in which people demonstrated respect or disrespect for others.

Character Theme:

Respect

Health

1. Respect Benefits

Make a list of the benefits of treating others with respect or disrespect--including the mental, emotional, and social benefits.

	How We Think	How We Feel	Our Friendships
Showing Respect for Others			
Showing Disrespect for Others			

2. Showing Self-Respect

Have groups make a list of ways they can show self-respect for their bodies, minds, and emotions.

Self-Respect for Body	Self-Respect for Mind	Self-Respect for Emotions

3. Healthy Habits & Respect

Have students make a list of healthy habits they have and how those habits demonstrate **self-respect, respect for authority, respect for others, or tolerance.**

Healthy Habit	Self-Respect	Respect for Authority	Respect for Others	Tolerance

4. Interview: Respect & Health

Have students interview three adults, asking them how showing respect for others helps them live a healthy life. Have students write a short summary of what people said.

5. Disrespectful Actions

Have small groups make a list of actions that show disrespect for self or disrespect for others. Have students include why those actions show disrespect.

Action	Disrespect for Self	Disrespect for Others

Physical Education

1. Sports Rules

Discuss the importance of following and respecting rules in sports. Have students make a list of the rules of one sport and why each rule is important.

Rule	Why This Rule Is Important

2. Showing Respect

Have students in groups, make a list of ways they can show respect for other students--both teammates and opponents--while playing a sport.

3. Including All Students

To promote respect for all students while playing a sport, modify the rules to require that all students be included in the game before a point can be scored. (For example, a basketball team has to pass the ball to all team members before a shot is taken.)

4. Respect While Playing

While students are playing a sport, have two students not play and assign them the job of writing down the comments other students make during play that show respect for others. Have students share the positive comments to the class.

5. Cooperative Game

To promote respect for all students, have students play a noncompetitive, cooperative game in which they can all participate equally regardless of their athletic abilities.



Honesty

Objective

Students will see the importance of being honest.

WiseQuotes



The best agreement we can make with people is, "Let there be truth between us two forevermore."

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Be true in all words and actions.

Ann Farshawe



To be wiser than other people is to be more honest than they; and strength of mind is only courage to see and speak the truth.

William Hazlitt



I will keep my word...and upon all occasions shall speak the truth, though I sometimes tell it at my own expense.

Ninon de Lenclos



Truth leads to virtue... A person continues to speak the truth until he becomes thoroughly truthful.

Mohammed



This above all: to thine own self be true, / and it must follow, as the night the day, / Thou canst not then be false to any person.

William Shakespeare



The honest person will live safely... But dishonesty will hurt those who are not trustworthy.

King Solomon



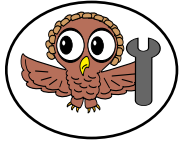
Truth is powerful and it prevails.

Sojourner Truth



I hope that I shall always possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the best of all titles-- the character of an honest person.

George Washington



Honesty

Discussion Topics

- Have students share experiences when people lied to them. Discuss how students felt about the person who lied. Explain that honesty is an essential part of all positive relationships.
- Discuss the negative effects of lying. Explain that if you lie, it affects you, as it makes you hide secrets and feel bad about yourself. You may even begin to believe your lies. Discuss the guilt you feel when you lie and do not get caught.
- Have students share about times when they lied to someone. Discuss how they felt when they lied and how the other person felt when they found out they were lied to. Explain that often lying is a way to avoid responsibility, but it always creates more problems than it solves.
- Have students share about people they know who they can fully trust. Discuss why they know they can trust these people. Explain that we respect people we know we can trust.
- Make a list on the board of why honesty is so important in all relationships. Explain that trust is the basis of all positive relationships.

Class Activities

- In groups, have students make a list of the results of being honest or dishonest. Then discuss as a class.

Being Honest	Being Dishonest
--------------	-----------------

- Have students share with partners about a time when they were tempted to lie but they chose to tell the truth. Have students share their partner's story with the class. Explain that when they tell the truth when it is difficult to, they will feel better about themselves and will be known as a trustworthy person. This will help them build good relationships with others. Emphasize that it takes more strength to be honest than to lie
- In groups, have students make a list of punishments they have received for lying. Discuss as a class why they are punished for lying. Explain that their family is trying to help them develop healthy relationships with others by teaching them to be honest.
- Have students create skits where someone lies. Then have students redo the skits and have the person tell the truth.

Role-Plays

Have students act out these role-plays showing dishonesty and honesty.

1. Kay was mad and hit his sister Suzi house. His mother talks to him.
2. Debbie lies to her friend Tammy about taking her bracelet.

Journal Writing

1. Write about a time when your feelings were hurt because someone lied to you.
2. Write 5 reasons why you should always be honest.
3. Describe a friend of yours who is very honest.



WiseQuote Open Story



Write the **WiseQuote** below:



Write a short story where someone must decide if they will do what the **WiseQuote** says. DO NOT write what the person decides to do, but give the story to someone else to finish.

Remember, DO NOT write the ending of the story. Now have someone else write what the person chose to do.

Ending: _____

Name of the person who wrote the ending: