**Character Education**

These lessons come from a Character Building game and are grouped into 10 categories. Each category is comprised of 6 prompts. We each have qualities that make us who we are. Some of these are physical qualities we can see. Others are qualities we can’t see – thoughts, ideas, and beliefs that are important to us and that guide our actions. These “inside” qualities make up our character.

The 10 categories are: Respect, Responsibility, Safety, Cooperation, Fairness, Citizenship, Relationships, Forgiveness, Honesty, and Caring

**Answer the questions below and discuss with your student to gain an understanding of these specific character traits.**

**Go over 2 character traits per week for the month of September.**

**August 30 - September 5 RESPECT**

\* What does respect mean?

\* Name someone at school or in your neighborhood who respects others. How does this person show respect?

\* Tell about a time you showed respect for someone.

\* What should you do? Some older kids are throwing rocks at a nest of baby birds. You want to save the birds,

but you are afraid the kids will hurt you if you say something.

\* How does this show respect? Your mom is tired, but your younger brother is crying and wants her to read a

story. You want to go out and play with your friends. Instead you read to your brother.

**August 30 - September 5 RESPONSIBILITY**

\* What does responsibility mean?

\* Name someone at school or in your community who is responsible. How does this person show

responsibility?

\* What would you do? A classmate lets you use her markers. When she asks for them back, you realize the

markers have dried up.

\* How does this show responsibility? You promise a neighbor you’ll mow his lawn. On the same day, a friend

asks you to play. You apologize and tell your friend you have something else to do.

\* What is one way you can show responsibility at home?

**September 6 - 12 SAFETY**

\* What does safety mean?

\* Tell about a time you made a choice to keep yourself safe.

\* What would you do? You want to go biking with a group of friends, but you can’t find your helmet. Your

friends say you don’t need it and you should go for a ride anyway.

\* How does this keep you safe? A friend wants you to go with her to the mall. Your parents aren’t home, so

you can’t ask if you can go. You know they don’t want you to leave, so you tell your friend you can’t go.

\* What is one thing you can do at home or in your neighborhood to stay safe?

**September 6 - 12 COOPERATION**

\* What does cooperation mean?

\* Name someone at school or in your neighborhood who cooperates well with others. How does this person

show cooperation?

\* Tell about a time you cooperated with someone to accomplish a big task or make a game more fun.

\* What would you do? You’re assigned to do a class project with a partner. Your partner isn’t doing her share

and leaves you with all the work.

\* How does this show cooperation? Some people are planning a party for your teacher. A few kids want things

done their way. You say, “It’s a good idea to listen to what everyone has to say.”

**September 13 - 19 FAIRNESS**

\* What does fairness mean?

\* Name someone at school or in your community who is fair. How does this person show fairness?

\* Tell about a time you treated someone fairly.

\* What would you do? It’s your time to work on the computer but a classmate says it is still his turn. You

don’t think he’s being fair.

\* How does this make things fair? You and some friends are decorating the halls. As a reward, a teacher gives

out treats. Others want to eat them all, but you save some for kids who had to leave early.

**September 13 - 19 CITIZENSHIP**

\* What does citizenship mean?

\* Name someone who is a good citizen at school or in your neighborhood. Why is this person a good citizen?

\* What would you do? You see a group of kids bullying someone. You want to stand up for the person, but

you’re afraid the group will target you next.

\* How does this show citizenship? You’re in class when you notice a friend writing swear words on his desk.

Even though you know he’ll be mad, you decide to tell the teacher.

\* What is one thing you and your friends can do in the community to show you are good citizens?

**September 20 - 26 RELATIONSHIPS**

\* What does it mean to have strong relationships?

\* Tell about a time you showed a family member you cared about him or her.

\* What would you do? A friend has a tennis match and wants you to cheer him on. Another friend wants you

to go to a movie. You want to support your friend in his match but also want to see the movie.

\* How can this build relationships? You’re having a party and want to invite people from both school and your

soccer league. Some of your friends worry that people won’t get along. You invite kids from both groups.

\* What is one way you can build relationships with other kids at school or in your neighborhood?

**September 20 - 26 FORGIVENESS**

\* What does forgiveness mean?

\* Name someone at school or in your neighborhood who forgives others. How does this person show

forgiveness?

\* What would you do? Someone trips you. The person who did it tells you it was an accident. You are upset

and think the tripping may have been on purpose.

\* How does this show forgiveness? After you tell a friend a secret, he tells a bunch of other kids. Soon

everyone knows. Your friend feels terrible and apologizes. You accept his apology and remain his friend.

\* What is one way you can show forgiveness to family members or friends?

**September 27 - October 3 HONESTY**

\* What does honesty mean?

\* Tell about a time you were honest.

\* What would you do? Your teacher says she is missing some stickers. You saw a girl take them. You want to

tell your teacher, but the girl is someone you’d like to be friends with.

\* How does this show honesty? You give a store clerk a ten-dollar bill, but he gives you change for twenty

dollars. You could really use the extra money but decide to tell the clerk.

\* What is one way you can show family members or friends you are honest?

**September 27 - October 3 CARING**

\* What does caring mean?

\* Name someone who cares for people, animals, or the earth. How does this person show caring?

\* Tell about a time you showed you care for someone at home, at school, or on the playground.

\* What would you do? A classmate never has pencils. You show you care by lending him some of yours. He

loses the pencils and asks for more.

\* How does this show caring? Your group won’t let a new girl join a game. You don’t want to make your

friends mad, but you say, “If she can’t play, I won’t play.”