

Kids for Character Pledge

Overview:

- Students develop familiarity with the core values of the Six Pillars of Character.
- Make connections between the values and students' lives.

Materials:

- Kids for Character Pledge for each student (Print from [this handout.](#))
Or you may purchase full-color [packs of Kids for Character Pledges.](#))
- Flash cards for key vocabulary (see [handout](#))
- Visual aids demonstrating the core values (photos, clip art, etc.)
- Coloring pens, crayons, etc.

Handouts:

- [Flash Cards](#)

Procedure:

1. Display the flash cards in a prominent place. Ask students if they recognize any of the words.
2. Cover all the flash cards except "Fair." Ask if anyone knows this word or an example of when something is fair or not fair. Most children are familiar with "It's not fair" so use this prompt to elicit suggestions and examples.
3. Discuss how it feels when something is not fair. Ask how students can be fair to each other and the teacher. Examples might include not talking when the teacher is speaking (it's not fair if others can't hear), sharing classroom materials, or playing games by the rules.
4. Show the class the visuals. Ask them to pick out images that show examples of people being fair.
5. Place the photos around the flash card and display them in a prominent place.
6. Continue steps 2-5 with all the other words, using cues that students will recognize to prompt their own ideas and experiences of the word. "Citizen" may be a difficult word, so introduce visuals to help students understand it.
7. Display all the words together with the appropriate visuals in a prominent area. Ask the class if

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they think these words are good words. Ask if the class would like to try to be like the people in the pictures around the words.

8. Explain that we can make a promise to always try to be like those people. Explain that this is called a pledge. Distribute the Kids for Character Pledge. Explain the vocabulary as necessary. Tell the students to sign their pledge.

9. Read the pledge together. Place the finished sheets around the flash cards and their images.

McREL standards

Standard 5. Uses the general skills and strategies of the reading process

Level II Benchmark 4. Uses phonetic and structural analysis techniques, syntactic structure, and semantic context to decode unknown words (e.g., vowel patterns, complex word families, syllabication, root words, affixes)

<http://www.mcrel.org/compendium/browse.asp>

HANDOUT: <http://charactercounts.org/pdf/Kids-for-character-new-pledge-LP.pdf>

Kids for Character Pledge

Vocabulary Flash Cards

TRUST

Celebrate Good Character!

Kids for Character Pledge

Vocabulary Flash Cards

RESPONSIBLE

Celebrate Good Character!

October 18-24, 2009

Kids for Character Pledge

Vocabulary Flash Cards

CARE

CITIZEN

Celebrate Good Character!

I pledge to be a Kid for Character.

I will be worthy of trust.

I will be respectful and responsible,
doing what I must.

I will always act with fairness.

I will show that I care.

I will be a good citizen
and always do my share.

Signed: _____