

Grades 4-6

CHARACTER EDUCATION

INSTRUCTION • ACTIVITIES • ASSESSMENT



Published by World Teachers Press®

www.worldteacherspress.com

www.didax.com/2-5265

Character Education

Character Education introduces and develops the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that will help students lead healthy and fulfilling lives. Students will consider what it means to be healthy—socially, mentally and emotionally—and will be given experiences to assist them to become responsible, caring members of society.

The book focuses on character building and values. Most experts agree that people with defined values and a good self-image are better equipped to deal with challenging situations. The activities encourage students to consider their own values and develop a sense of self-worth. It also focuses on the importance of showing respect for and tolerance towards others and valuing diversity in our society.

Character Education provides a comprehensive coverage of values content, supports teachers in planning and implementing lessons and, through collaborative learning and thoughtful discussion, promotes a lifelong commitment to a healthy value base.



Other titles in this series:

Character Education, Grades 2-4

Character Education, Grades 6-8

Contents

Teacher Notes

Teacher Information	4 – 5
Suggestions for Teaching Values.....	6 – 7
Assessment Indicators	8 – 9
Assessment Forms	10 – 11

Student Activities

I'm Great!.....	12 – 13
I Am Special Because	14 – 15
Staying Positive!.....	16 – 17
Your Feelings	18 – 19
How Do You Feel?.....	20 – 21
Caring for Others.....	22 – 23
Families	24 – 25
Where I Belong	26 – 27
Joining Groups	28 – 29
Strengths and Weaknesses – 1	30 – 31
Strengths and Weaknesses – 2.....	32 – 33
Friends.....	34 – 35
Friendship	36 – 37
Relationships	38 – 39
Communication and Cooperation.....	40 – 41
Goal Setting.....	42 – 43
Setting Goals.....	44 – 45
Teamwork.....	46 – 47
Fair Play.....	48 – 49
Decisions, Decisions, Decisions!.....	50 – 51

Making Decisions – 1	52 – 53
Making Decisions – 2	54 – 55
Managing Your Time – 1	56 – 57
Managing Your Time – 2	58 – 59
Worries.....	60 – 61
Worries and Secrets.....	62 – 63
We Are All Different	64 – 65
We Are All Different!.....	66 – 67
Tolerance – 1	68 – 69
Tolerance – 2.....	70 – 71
Respecting Each Other.....	72 – 73
What Would You Do?.....	74 – 75
Peer Pressure – 1	76 – 77
Peer Pressure – 2.....	78 – 79
Solving Problems.....	80 – 81
Your Values.....	82 – 83
Values	84 – 85
Working Out Conflicts.....	86 – 87
Conflict Resolution Steps.....	88 – 89
Conflict Resolution – 1	90 – 91
Conflict Resolution – 2.....	92 – 93
Bullying—What Can I Do?.....	94 – 95
Bullying – 1	96 – 97
Bullying – 2	98 – 99
Our Environment	100 – 101
Conserving Our Resources.....	102 – 103

Indicators

- Recognizes and values differences in individuals.
- Recognizes and understands the need for tolerance.

The Lesson**Discussion points:**

- Why do people look different/the same?
- What foods do you like to eat that originated in another country?
- Were you born here? Were your parents? If not, where were they born?
- Do you follow any traditions/customs at your house which may be different from those of other people?
- Why is tolerance important? Does it mean that you have to agree with other people's beliefs?
- Would more tolerance make a difference to conflict that occurs in the classroom, school, community and world?

Materials needed/Preparation:

- Depending on the class, it may be wise to look at the class list prior to this lesson and match students who don't normally spend time together.

What to do:

- Begin by pairing the students with partners with whom they do not spend much time. (Note: It may be beneficial to work with another class in the same grade.)
- Students ask their partners questions and record their responses on the chart.
- The pairs can work together to discuss Question 2 and respond to it. Some students may need guidance by asking questions such as:
"What would happen if people only liked other people who were the same as them?"
- Ask students to come together and state one fact about the person they interviewed that they didn't know before. (Make sure they ask permission from the person first.)
- Ask students to share their responses to Question 2. Discuss the importance of being tolerant. Think of examples in the classroom which have happened recently where tolerance may have prevented a conflict among the students (without saying names).

Answers:

Answers will vary

Additional Activities

- Students create a "factfile" about the person they interviewed. Using a digital camera (if one is available) the students can take a photo of their partner and attach it to his/her factfile. These can be displayed around the classroom.

Background Information

We live in a multicultural society. We all look different. We all live differently. Differences can enhance our relationships and enrich our society. Students need to be taught to recognize, appreciate and tolerate differences.

Tolerance is a skill which can reduce conflict. It is an ongoing process.

Teaching tolerance is also teaching students not to hate. Teachers can teach tolerance most effectively by modeling tolerant behavior in the classroom and on the playground. Students should be exposed to people, literature and images which are multicultural and which teach them about other faiths, ethnicities and lifestyles.

Educating students to be tolerant will:

- *promote the understanding and acceptance of people with individual differences.*
- *minimize generalizations and stereotyping.*
- *help students to understand and appreciate the differences between people.*
- *highlight the need to combat prejudice and discrimination.*

It is wonderful to know there are things about each of us that make us just a little bit different from everyone else. It is our differences that make us special!



- 1 Choose a person in your class who you don't normally spend time with. Complete the table.

	Your response	Your partner's response
What is your favorite way to spend your weekends?		
What is something you get excited about?		
What are your favorite types of books to read?		
What makes you laugh?		
How many people are in your family?		
Do you have any pets?		
What makes you angry?		
If you could eat anything for dinner tonight, what would it be?		
What types of music do you like to listen to?		

- 2 Why do you think it is important to be tolerant and accept differences among other people?

