

CHARACTER TRAIT OF THE MONTH: RESPECT



September

Respect

What is Respect: The Dictionary defines it as “due regard for the feelings, wishes, rights, or traditions of others”.

What does it mean to be respectful?

Treat others the way we want to be treated.

Ways of Showing Respect:

Respect Rules: We have rules to keep you and others safe. We respect rules, by following them.

Respect People: We respect people by treating them the way we want to be treated. We treat them kindly, even when we do not agree with them or we do not like something they are doing.

Respect People’s Property: We take care of people’s property. We do not break things that do not belong to us. We do not throw out our trash and leave it on the ground for other’s to pick up.

Respect Animals: We need to be gentle with animals. If we have pets, we need to take care of them and make sure they have food and water.

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” Maya Angelou

Seeing Respect in Our Lives:

We see people every day who are not kind to each other. They are not showing respect. We hear words in music that tell us the singer is being disrespectful to others or someone is being disrespectful. The movie Brave has many scenes we see disrespect and respect. Has everyone seen Brave? Does anyone have some ideas on the characters who were showing disrespect?

The 4 Clans began pointing out differences, which turned into physical fights between the clans.

The daughter and mother were arguing with one another instead of listening to the other.

Merida tried to force her mom to change her by getting a potion. It turned her mom into a bear instead of changing her view.

Does anyone have some ideas on the characters showing respect?

Merida saves her mom by understanding that while they have differences, they have similarities and focusing on those similarities and being a family.

Both Merida and her mom apologize for not listening and hearing what the other person was saying.

Merida reminds the men in the different clans the similarities and what they stood for, which brings everyone together in the end.



Showing Respect Every Day:

- 1) Listen when others are speaking.
- 2) In the classroom, raise your hand when you would like to speak and wait for the teacher to call on you. When you are with others, listen to what they have to say, wait for them to finish and then speak.
- 3) Be kind to each other. Talk nicely with the way you talk and the words you say.
- 4) Clean up your mess. Do not leave your mess for others to clean up.
- 5) Follow the rules that are part of the classroom, your home/family, and the laws of the community.
- 6) Follow directions given by your teachers, parents, coaches, and the protectors in your community such as police officers and fire fighters.
- 7) Be kind to the people around us by asking them to join our activities and not leaving a person out.
- 8) When we are angry, do not act out in anger by calling names and using words to hurt people's feelings. Take a break until you can talk calmly or get a teacher or adult involved.
- 9) Focus on our similarities and not our differences.
- 10) Work together.



Interview Assignment

Each group (2-4 children) should ask each other the following questions:

- 1) What is your favorite type of music?
- 2) What is your favorite book?
- 3) Who is your favorite author?
- 4) Who is the person you look up to most in your life?
- 5) What is your favorite sport to play or watch?
- 6) What is your favorite color?
- 7) If you could go anywhere, which country would you want to go visit and why?
- 8) What is one way you can help your community?
- 9) What do you want to be when you grow up and why?

After interviewing the other members in your group, name something you all have in common and something that makes you all different.

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Maya Angelou

Does anyone have a time they would like to share about someone hurting your feelings, intentionally or unintentionally. Please do not use names, just share the situation and the way that it made you feel.

Remember, we want to treat people in a way that lifts them up and does not hurt their feelings. There are ways we are alike and there are ways we are not. It is okay to not believe the exact same way as our friends and classmates, it is okay to disagree with our friends and classmates. We show them respect by acknowledging the differences and not making others feel badly about the differences whether it is the things we like, the way we believe, or what we feel is important to us.