

Character Education

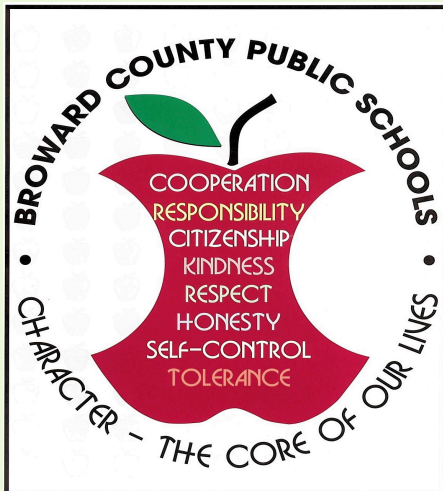
*Suggested Activities
High*



January

Respect

Prevention Calendar January 2017



Inside this issue you will find:

- Alignment to Prevention Calendar.
- A variety of lessons and activities for all grade levels.
- Links to multiple additional resources and helpful websites.
- Social Emotional and Learning alignment.

Monthly Observances:

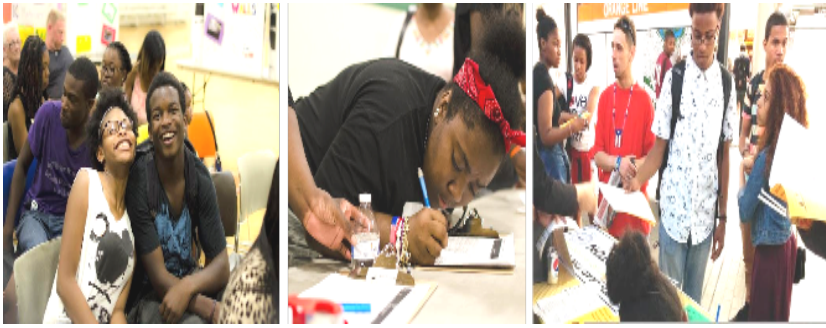
- [National Blood Donor](#)
- [National Mentoring](#)
- [Florida Jewish History](#)

Weekly Observances:

- [No Name Calling Week](#) (January 16th – 20th)
- [Healthy Weight Week](#) (January 16th – 20th)

Day Observances:

- January 1 – [Global Family Day](#)
- January 11 – [Human Trafficking Day](#)
- January 18 – [No Name Calling Day](#)
- January 27 – [International Holocaust Remembrance Day](#)



DEFINITIONS & QUOTATIONS

DEFINITIONS

Ideas on How to Use:

- Post character trait & definition around the school campus.
- Teachers use definitions to help students understand the meaning of the character development trait.

Respect is essential for becoming a healthy, happy, and productive person, and it is the basis for a free and civil society where each person does what he or she is expected to do. Following the Golden Rule of treating others with respect, being tolerant and accepting of differences. Respect is using good manners, not bad language. Respect is finding ways to deal with anger, insults, and disagreements 'Peacefully', and not being threatening, hitting or hurting others.

Definitions:

- Showing consideration, understanding, and regard for people, places and things.
- Courteous expression (by word or deed)
- Courteous regard for people's feelings
- A feeling of friendship and esteem
- Taking someone's feelings, needs, thoughts, ideas, wishes and preferences into consideration

Words of Wisdom

- Respect is something that is earned.
- Respect seems to be like a boomerang in the sense that you must send it out before it will come back to you.
- Treat other people the way you want to be treated.
- Listen to what other people have to say.
- Don't judge people before you get to know them?
- You don't have to necessarily love everyone but try and respect them.

QUOTATIONS

Ideas on How to Use:

- Display a quote each week. Share on morning announcements.
- Teachers post quotes in classrooms.
- Have students write about what the quote means to them.
- Have primary students draw a picture to go with the quote.
- Encourage students to create their own 'quote' that promotes monthly trait.

"The shortest and surest way to live with honor in the world, is to be in reality what we would appear to be; all human virtues increase and strengthen themselves by the practices and experience of them."
– Socrates

"When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."
– Aldo Leopold

"Respecting a student's own sense of timing for self-awareness is another way that we can honor and strengthen solitude."
– Rachael Kessler

"Kindness and respect for others helps trust grow."
– Donna B. Forrest

"The most successful classes are those where the teacher has a clear idea of what is expected from the students and the students know what the teacher expects from them." - Harry Wong

"He who loves others is constantly loved by them. He who respects others is constantly respected by them."
– Mencius



Book List

Ideas on How to Use:

- In media center, designate a character trait “Featured Readings” section where books promoting the month’s theme are displayed and available for checkout.
- Have students read books, and then depict how the book exemplified the character trait.

Activities

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

- [A Historical Perspective](#)
- [Mob's Voice vs. Hero's Voice](#)
- [Profiles in Courage](#)

Night

By Elie Weisel

- [Colors and Symbols of stigmatization](#)
- [Reporting on WWII](#)
- [Life is Beautiful](#)
- [A Study in Compassion and Courage](#)

Pride and Prejudice

By Jane Austen

- [Lesson Plans](#)
- [The Novel as a Historical Source](#)

Inspirations from Gandhi

Teaching Tolerance

- [Racial Profiling](#)
- [Treating People with Dignity](#)
- [The First Amendment and Freedom of Religion](#)
- [Speaking Kindness in Democratic Classroom](#)
- [Respecting Nonreligious People](#)
- [Changing Demographics: What can we do to promote Respect?](#)

Toning the Sweep by Angela Johnson

This story is about fourteen year old Emily who learns what “toning the sweep” means. She comes to learn that it is a ritual - a way of drumming a plow to create a sound that honors the deceased. Emily and her mother are moving with her grandmother Ola to Cleveland where she will live for the remainder of her days. Their hardships and struggles are told throughout the novel.

A Summer to Die by Lois Lowry

Meg is not happy when she finds out that she is going to be sharing a room with her older sister Molly since her family has moved to a small house in the country. Meg and her sister are very different; Molly is the popular and pretty one. Just as Meg is starting to get fed up with her sister, Molly is rushed to the hospital. Meg realizes that something is seriously wrong with her sister.

Whirligig By Paul Felischman

After being rejected and humiliated at a party, Brent drives home drunk with the intent on killing himself, his drunk driving kills a stranger instead. Brent is overcome with guilt and wants to find a way to redeem himself and make things right. He is able to meet Lea’s mother and she requests that he makes four whirligigs of her daughter and set them up at the corners of the United States. The readers follow Brent on his journey to the four different states.

Lord of the Flies by William Golding

A group of British boys are stranded on an island by themselves without adult supervision. They decide to establish a society based on law and order. They provide shelter and food for themselves, but the world they have created starts to fall apart when a power for struggle begins.

Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry

Lena lives in a cramped apartment in an unsafe neighborhood. She hopes to move to a new family home in the suburbs of Chicago using her husband’s life insurance policy. Her older son has other plans for the money, which may jeopardize her move to a new life.

The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway

An old Cuban fisherman, Santiago, takes on nature for 84 days to hook a giant Marlin. He has to battle the fish for two days before hooking it. When Santiago returns to land, he sees that sharks have eaten away the marlin and reduced it to just a shell of skeleton.



Prevention Ideas

Monthly Observances:

National Blood Donor

[The Gift of Life](#)

[My Blood Your Blood](#)

National Mentoring

[Toolkit](#)

Florida Jewish History

[Jewish Museum of Florida](#)

Weekly Observances:

No Name Calling Week (January 16th – 20th)

[GLSEN](#)

[Gear Up for No Name Calling Week](#)

Healthy Weight Week (January 16th – 20th)

[Healthy Body Image](#)

The Great Kindness Challenge (January 23rd – 27th)

[Register for the challenge](#)

Day Observances:

Global Family Day (January 1)

[Not just world peace: U.N.'s goals on 70th anniversary – Lesson Plan](#)

[Do One Thing](#)

Human Trafficking Day (January 11)

[Slavery and Human Rights](#)

[What is Trafficking?](#)

[What is Child Labour?](#)

[Slavery and What we Buy](#)

[Child Trafficking](#)

No Name Calling Day (January 18)

See above No Name Calling Week

International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27)

[The International School for Holocaust](#)

[United States Holocaust Memorial Museum](#)



School-wide

Ideas on how to use:

- Use suggested school-wide ideas to create a culture of character and address your schools need for a RTI Tier I – universal strategy.
- Any teacher or staff members that works with students can incorporate classroom ideas.

1 PA Announcements

Student Interviews

Have each student council member write a brief school spirit speech for the student body about the importance of respect towards one another. Have the student council members present to student body.

Community Members Interviews

Have community members speak to the student body on ways to build community respect for each other. Have students take notes on the strategies learned and decide which strategies presented work for the school culture.

2 School Displays

Making a Better School Display

Display student photographs that focus on members of the student body working as a team. Create a recipe for respect.



SUBJECT AREA LESSON PLANS

Ideas on How to Use This Page: Integrate character trait lesson plans into all subject area instruction. Lesson plans are specific to language arts, social studies, math/science, arts, health & physical education

ARTS

- **VISUAL ARTS: Making People Think**

Art can make people think about things in different ways. Art can communicate important social messages about issues of justice, equality and fairness. Have students create a work of art that makes viewers think about the needs of people they may not usually think about (elderly, people in poverty, homeless, etc.) Hold an art exhibit of students' work that communicates concern for different groups. Let's motivate students to respect all!

- **ART APPRECIATION: Art Analysis**

Many artists in the past 150 years have created works whose subjects are often people forgotten or neglected by the larger society. The artist attempts to focus on the beauty of ordinary people in ordinary situations. Have students analyze a work of art that highlights a person or group of people who are often at the fringes of society. Let's motivate students to respect all!

- **PHOTOGRAPHY: Respect**

Photo essays can be a unique way to communicate abstract concepts in visual ways. Have students create a photo essay entitled "Respect", in which they visually explore what the concept means to them. Have students use images, lighting and unique settings to communicate through their photographs what they believe "respect" is.

BUSINESS & CAREERS

- **BUSINESS: Teamwork**

Have students make a list of the ways that a business can promote teamwork. Students will describe why teamwork in a business is important.

- **BUSINESS: Profile**

Have students write about ways a particular type of business can show respect in all aspects of its operations, i.e., employee relations, customer service, Sales and Marketing, Research and Development.



School-wide [cont'd]

3 Special Events & Programs

Local Government Speakers

Have members of the community address classrooms with the emphasis on, respect for others is the key for success.

Debate Series

Have a lunchtime debate series where students debate important social and political issues of the day. Define and debate partisan.

Newspaper Series

Bring in current events, which are happening in our community, which demonstrate how respect means success or how the lack of respect brought about negative consequences.

4 Class Activities

Communication: Students make a list of actions that help people communicate well and actions that disrupt the ability to effectively communicate.

Respect: Students will write an essay on the difficulty of being respectful and why being respectful is beneficial.

Interview: Students will interview other students to determine how respect has helped them in personal or professional relationships. Findings of the interviews will be shared with class.

Lesson Plans [cont'd]



Photo Courtesy of Shutterstock

Activities

- Have students discuss whether or not school has taught them the importance of respecting others. If not, what can be done to teach respect of others.
- Have students research the history of their school, community or area in which they live. (Find out if any famous people have graduated from your school, or live(d) in your community.)
- Have students bring to class one object or item from their parents or grandparent's school days to share with others. Stories can be written to share with class.
- **Writing Prompts:** Consider the following two opinions about "respect"
 - Respect should be earned
 - Respect should be expected
- Consider this statement: Respect is a long-term benefit of good character habits. Write why this statement has value.

English

• Letter to a Character

Have students write a letter of advice to a character that refuses to respect others in the story. Have students try to persuade the character with logic and reason to respect others.

• Social Issues in Literature

Often literature addresses important social concerns and issues using the backdrop of a dramatic story. Have students look at the social issues that are addressed in the piece of literature they are reading. Have students work in groups to decide the position they think the author is taking on those issues. Have groups present their ideas to the class.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

• Vocabulary

Introduce students to the following words, which can be used in your daily discussions in class:

- * respect * esteem * admiration * honor
- * courtesy * civility

• Respect at School

Have students write a short essay about a time at school where they experience students being respectful to each other.

• Section Review

Review vocabulary words that students have learned in this section. Have students write short paragraphs about issues and areas related to the concept of respect.

MATH

• Respect in Mathematics

Have the class discover and discuss how mathematicians have been respected (or not) throughout history. You might choose one of the following: Pythagoras, Euclid, Archimedes, Descartes, George Boole, Newton, Pascal, Omar Khayyam

• Math at Work

Have students write about how a person in a math related occupation needs to show respect on the job.

Lesson Plans [cont'd]

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- **Athletes and Respect**

Discuss why professional athletes have to demonstrate respect/teamwork to be successful.

- **Respect and Your Body**

Ask students how do they respect their body to grow and be strong. Have them discuss what they can do to respect their bodies. Have them brainstorm what specifically is to build and grow strong mind and body.

SCIENCE

- **Science & Respect**

Have students prepare a database of endangered species. Include basic information such as the habitat, the reason for their near extinction, and laws protecting them. How do we show respect for endangered species? Create an informational brochure explaining the importance of your animals on the environment.

- **Science & Character**

Have students in groups come up with specific ways that successful scientists need to demonstrate respect, honesty and courage in the work that they do. Students will need to create columns for the three character traits listed. Students will select a recorder and presenter for this activity and the end results will be presented to the entire class.

SOCIAL STUDIES

- **Respecting Cultures**

Assign students the task of research another country or culture's rules of courtesy and methods of showing respect to each other, to elders, to authority figures, to family members, etc. Ask students to use a graphic organizer, to illustrate the similarities and differences between the students' own familiar culture and the one they researched.

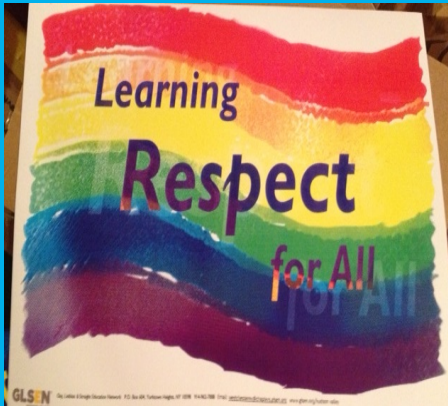
- **Conflict**

Select a period in history correlated to student curriculum to examine how a pervasive lack of regard between individuals led to conflict. Illustrate how lack of respect between individuals or cultures may have been avoided prior to escalation through interpersonal behavior and communication skills that would demonstrate a framework of respect. What conflicts exist locally or globally today that may be based on lack of respect between groups or individuals.

LEAPS

[Leaps Lesson on Respect](#)

Service Learning



Classroom Ideas

Class Discussion Topics

- Discuss with the class the concept of respect as it relates to tolerance of others. Discuss how we need to respect the diversity of others. Read the famous Martin Luther King, Jr. speech, “I Have a Dream.” Discuss the parts of speech that relate directly to respect. Have students write their own “I Have a Dream” speech about the world as it is now. Have the students read their speeches to the class.
- Discuss with students different ways in which respect can be shown for our servicemen overseas and military veterans.

Ideas on How to Use this Section:

- Promote school-wide service learning initiative/campaigns using provided ideas. (Do a ‘service day’; encourage classes to do random service acts of kindness to other classes/staff, etc.)
- Engage school clubs/student council to lead service projects.
- **Why Service Learning?** Students need to learn the importance of contributing to their school and community. Building cooperation skills helps students feel that they can be contributors to others and can do work that benefits their community. This shows them that their lives are important now and sets a foundation for becoming cooperative citizens in adulthood.

School Service-Learning

- Hold a Humane Society drive, where students bring in supplies for the local Humane Society. Plan a field trip to the Humane Society and bring the items that you collected. They will provide a tour of the building and discuss respecting/caring for animals.
- Peace Rocks, a year-long service-learning project. Students write fables around the theme of peace and compile them into a book for younger children. They also write poetry and take photographs documenting peaceful locales in the community to create an exhibit that chronicles the history of the community. And the students develop and lead their peers in No Name-Calling Week activities. (No Name-Calling Week is January 16–20)
- Take your recycling program to the next level by asking students to create video or audio podcasts discussing the importance of recycling and waste reduction. Post the podcasts on your school website for the wider community to learn from.

Hands-on Activities/Projects

- Have students create a mural, picture, or collage, or make an image that demonstrates the things and people that they respect. Have students give an oral presentation about their finished product. Hang their projects in the room or throughout the school during the month of January.
- Research the treatment of the elderly in the United States and compare it to other cultures. Focus on the respect shown to the elderly in the United States as compared to how the elderly are treated in countries such as Japan and China.

Family Newsletter

Dear Parent:

Respect is a critical element in all healthy relationships. When children 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 children to live productive lives as they relate to and work with others.

Respect for others is based on self-respect and self-respect in children comes from being treated with respect by their parents and other adult role models. Teaching children self-respect does not mean complimenting everything they do. They also need honest criticism. When we do criticize, we should focus on things they have done, not on them personally.

What You Can Do:

- Encourage your child to build a positive identity that focuses on his/her integrity and talents.
- Emphasize that character is built upon the decisions and actions a person takes.
- Help your child reach his/her full potential by encouraging him/her to develop their talents, set reachable goals and honor themselves as a unique person.
- Teach your child how to choose good values.



Character Education: High

January



Diversity, Prevention & Intervention
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Six Ways to Teach Respect:

Do as I do - Children learn from the example show them.

Do as I say - Do as I say will be better received after "do as I do" has been taken care of.

Show them respect - Respect is not only about showing people who are older than you regard. It's about establishing in everyone's mind the dignity of the human person.

Teach them at an early age - It's never too late to teach and model respectful behavior but always start as soon as possible.

Negative and Positive Responses - Learn to show disapproval when they talk or act disrespectfully to others. When they act respectfully ALWAYS show your appreciation or approval of their actions.

Monitor their environment - When people come to your house, let them know that bad manners are strongly discouraged. The goal of your home is to make everyone feel respected.