

# Character Education

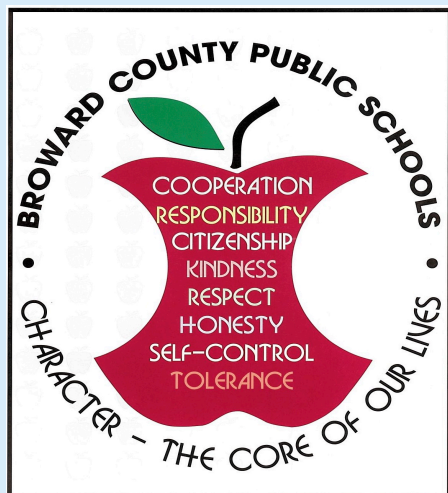
*Suggested Activities  
Middle*



## 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:

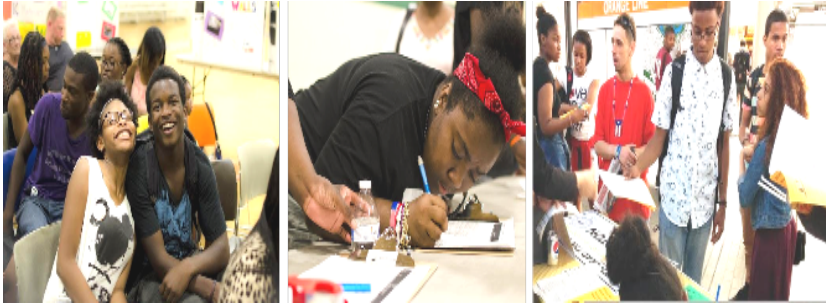
- [National Blood Donor](#)
- [National Mentoring](#)
- [Florida Jewish History](#)

### Weekly Observances:

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

### 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.

"Wise men appreciate all people, for they see good in each and know how hard it is to make anything good."  
– Baltasar Gracian

"A positive attitude helps others to respect you more."  
– Donna B. Forrest

"Self-respect is the fruit of discipline; the sense of dignity grows with the ability to say 'no' to oneself."  
– Abraham Heschel

"The highest result of education is tolerance."  
– Helen Keller

"Character do not change – Opinions alter, but characters are only developed."  
– Benjamin Disraeli

"Never accept 'putdowns' by others toward you."  
– Donna B Forest

"Treat people exactly as you would like to be treated by them."  
– Golden Rule





## 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 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>)

[GLSEN](#)

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

Healthy Weight Week (January 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>)

[Weight Control](#)

The Great Kindness Challenge (January 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>)

[Register for the challenge](#)

### Day Observances:

Global Family Day (January 1)

[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 work with students can incorporate classroom ideas.

### 1 PA Announcements

#### **Student's Working Together**

Have your student council identify "A Day for Change". This is the day that the entire student body will work together towards helping one selected local or world charity.

#### **Community Members**

#### **Interviews**

Have members of the community address classrooms with the emphasis on, how working together is a key for success.

### 2 School Displays

#### • **Building a Community**

Have a contest where each classroom designs a poster, which depicts our school as a community. All posters will be displayed at the school. Student council reaches out to dignitaries who will select the winning posters. Contact your Partners in Education for donation.



## 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

### LANGUAGE ARTS

- **School or Community Unity**

Have students write essays, which suggest ways, their school or community could be more respectful.

- **Resolving Conflicts**

Have students write stories where characters have disagreements with each other yet they respect each other to resolve their conflicts.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

- **Cooperation and Exploitation**

Discuss how the principle of respect is essential in all human societies. Discuss how respect can help resolve conflicts.

- **Current Events**

Have students' research and share about current events where issues are being discussed and resolved respectfully.

### MATH

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

### ARTS

- **VISUAL ARTS: Cooperation**

Have students paint or draw an illustration of people doing something positive together.

- **VISUAL ARTS: Portrait**

Have students photograph the people in their lives that support them. Include something that illustrates how this person helps and supports them.



### School-wide [cont'd]

#### 3 Special Events & Programs

- **Mix it up Day**

Have your school participate in the National, "Mix it up at Lunch" day. Students identify the lunchrooms as the most segregated place in the school. Cafeteria tables are designed as cities around the world. Students are randomly assigned a city to visit for their lunch period. They meet new students and learn about the city. The Internet has more information about this national school activity.

#### 4 Class Activities

- Have students learn how to brainstorm. Remind them what group dynamics and rules are necessary for group brainstorming. Students will learn how to come to a consensus.
- Have students write a short essay or paragraph about what they could do cooperatively to try to realistically solve one problem in their community.

## Lesson Plans [cont'd]



### Activities

- Listen to the Aretha Franklin song entitled “RESPECT.” Ask students to write their own words for this song while still staying with the theme of “RESPECT.”
- Divide the students into dyads and have each team read about two non-fictional people, such as Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr., who are considered heroes as a result of one or more special accomplishments. Have student use a Venn Diagram or a compare and contrast chart to show the similarities and dissimilarities between the two, using teacher-made categories such as dates of birth and death, professions or vocations, genders ethnicity, accomplishments, and contributions to society. Discuss the differences and similarities with the class.

### HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- **Resolving Conflicts**

In small groups have students discuss conflicts they have resolved while playing a sport or game. Emphasize cooperation and respect strategies used.

- **Creating a Cooperative Team**

Have students demonstrate cooperation with teammates when playing a game or sport by accepting the calls of the official in a sports setting, by congratulating an opponent on a good play, scoring a point, or by waiting one’s turn to use a piece of playground equipment.

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

- **Current Events**

Have students research a current social issue or problem in the country whose language they are studying. Have students include information about efforts that were used to respectfully with others to try and solve the problem.

### LEAPS

[Leaps Lesson on Respect](#)





## Classroom Ideas

### Class Discussion Topics

- Hold a respectful listening session with the students by having two students prepare and present two different points of view on a hot issue. Ask the students to listen and summarize both points of view non-judgmentally. Lead a discussion about the difference between listening and hearing.
- Discuss with the class the meaning of “self-respect.” Ask each student to list the three most important ways to show self-respect. Have the students’ share and compare.

### Creative Expression

- Have students write a skit regarding ways they can show respect for themselves and how this can result in others treating them with more respect. Perform the skit in class or for the school.
- Have students create posters for the cafeteria with slogans about being respectful in the lunchroom

# Service Learning

### 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.

### School Service-Learning

- 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.
- Have students think about ways they show respect for the environment. What would happen if no one recycles or respected the environment? Envision the way our community would look if everyone were to recycle and show respect for our environment. Create a watercolor or mixed media composition that reflects the way our community could look if we all worked together.

## Hands-on Activities/Projects

### **RESPECT**

Students should think of some of the disrespectful words they’ve called themselves or others, such as “Dumb”, “ugly”, or “unpopular.” They should write them down and throw them out! Then, they should discuss some of the positive things they might say instead that would show respect. Keep a receptacle in a central place at home or school so students can throw disrespectful words into it.

# 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: Middle

January



Diversity, Prevention & Intervention  
Lauderdale Manors Early Learning &  
Resource Center  
1400 NW 14<sup>th</sup> Court  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311  
(754) 321-1655  
Fax: (754) 321-1691  
[www.browardprevention.org](http://www.browardprevention.org)  
Email:  
Kimberly.Young@browardschools.com

### 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.