

Perseverance

(April Parent Edition)

Definition of Perseverance:

A person who perseveres gets things done, has goals that matters to him/her, and stays focused on them. He/she never gives up no matter how hard it gets.

Quotes:



“If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again.”

-Anonymous

“I never failed once. It just happened to be a 2000 step process.”

-Thomas Edison

“Winners are losers who got up and gave it one more try.”

-Dennis DeYoung

“Fall seven times. Stand up eight.”

-Japanese Proverb

Discussion Starters:

- Talk about these scenarios with your child—(You’ve tried the math homework problem three different times, and you still can’t get an answer. What should you do? If you’re on the swim team, and you come in last in your race, what would be a reasonable goal to set for your next race? Your soccer coach wants you to practice dribbling, and you’d rather score goals. How could you show perseverance in soccer?)
- Brainstorm ways that students can show perseverance in school, at home, or in their community.
- Beethoven was deaf, Stevie Wonder is blind, James Earl Jones was a stutterer, Helen Keller was deaf and blind, and Thomas Edison had a learning problem. What role did perseverance play in helping these people achieve their goals?
- As a parent, talk about difficult situations you’ve faced and how you handled them without giving up. Share with your child what you’ve learned from those experiences.
- What would doing your best look like if you were: Cleaning your room? Learning something new, like playing an instrument? Studying for a test in a subject your found difficult? Getting tired in the middle of a job you were doing? Helping to organize a party? Setting goals for yourself?
- Read Aesop’s *The Tortoise and the Hare* and talk about which character showed perseverance.

Resources:

- www.charactercounts.org and www.k12.hi.us/~mkunimit/page13.htm (character values)
- The Carrot Seed*
- The Wednesday Surprise*
- A Chair for My Mother*
- Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*
- Stone Fox*
- The Little Engine That Could*

