

# Monthly Character Traits

AUG.

## **School Pride & Citizenship**

Be a volunteer; serve your school and community, and encourage others to do likewise. Know and live by the principals upon which the United States of America was founded. Obey the law. Learn the history of your state and nation. Honor democracy. Vote. Stay informed about your country and its role in the world.

*Subtopics include: patriotism, concern for the common good and the community, and respect for authority and the law.*

SEPT.

## **Respect**

Seeing value in all people and things & treating them with care. Be courteous. Be considerate of other people's feelings, rights, and property. Affirm individual rights and freedoms. Honor parents, elders, and those in positions of authority.

OCT.

## **Responsibility**

Taking action and understanding the impact of our choices. Demonstrate reliability, dependability, and accountability. Think before you act; consider and accept the consequences of your actions. Set a good example. Exercise self-control. Be disciplined. Fulfill all your obligations.

*Subtopics Include: accountability, diligence, perseverance, and loyalty*

NOV.

## **Gratitude**

Gratitude is pausing to notice and appreciate the things that we often take for granted, like having a place to live, food, clean water, friends, family, even computer access. It's taking a moment to reflect on how fortunate we are when something good happens - whether it's a small thing or a big thing.

DEC.

## **Empathy**

Show that you care about self, others, and the environment through kindness, concern, and generosity. Understanding and connecting to other people's feelings. Give of yourself and what you have for the benefit of others.

*Subtopics include: kindness, caring, compassion, consideration, patience, generosity, and charity.*

JAN.

## **Perseverance**

Push yourself to work through challenges. Work hard and work smart. Strive for excellence in everything you do. Do the best you can with what you have. Be attentive and persistent.

FEB.

## **Honesty**

Tell the truth. Be sincere. Be forthright and candid. Refrain from lying, stealing, cheating, and misleading others. Hold firm to a high code of ethical principles and personal convictions. Be trustworthy and keep your promises and commitments. Abide by both the spirit and letter of an agreement. Exhibit appropriate loyalty in relationships. Be your best self.

*Subtopics include: integrity, reliability, punctuality, and loyalty*

MAR.

## **Cooperation**

Working together to reach shared goals. Listen carefully to others and be sure you understand what they are saying. Share when you have something that others would like to have. Do your part the very best that you possibly can. This will inspire others to do the same.

APR.

## **Courage**

Take a stand. Hold to your convictions. Be willing to sacrifice self-interest for the greater good. Risk failure. Risk disfavor from others. Overcome fear and adversity.

MAY

## **Inclusivity**

Treat others as you would like to be treated. Listen and try to understand what others believe and feel. Be impartial. Give due credit to others. Be tolerant of diversity. Play by the rules; share with others. Strive for justice. Subtopics include: justice and freedom from prejudice.

The standards for positive character traits consist of four strands: trustworthiness, responsibility, caring, and citizenship. Each strand consists of the following character traits.

(A) Trustworthiness: loyalty, integrity, reliability, and punctuality.

(B) Responsibility: accountability, perseverance, diligence, and self-control.

(C) Caring: kindness, empathy, charity, generosity, patience, consideration, and compassion.

(D) Citizenship: respect, courtesy, concern for the common good and the community, fairness, freedom from prejudice, justice, patriotism, school pride, respect for authority and law, and gratitude.