



# Commitment to Character

PCS  
September 2018

## Responsibility: Doing your best and taking ownership for your words and actions.

### Responsibility Activity:

JLGaines 2005

### Responsi-bill-lity

Materials

: A dollar bill

Look what I brought with me today.  
(Hold up the dollar bill for the students to see.)

All of us know how to spend money. Do we all need money? What do we use money for? (Briefly discuss needs and wants.) When I hold this dollar bill in my hand, it does not block my vision of the things around me. I can see my family, friends, and people who might need help, and I can see work that needs to be done. The problem comes when I hold money so close to me (hold dollar in front of your eyes) and that's all I can see or care about. If I love money too much, that can lead to trouble. I might begin to make foolish and selfish purchases, thinking only of myself instead of making responsible choices and thinking about the needs of others. Having money is not a problem. However, if I love money too much- and hold it too close-it becomes a problem. What are some good and responsible things we can do with money?



(Object Talks for Any Day, by Verna L. Kokmeyer)  
<http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/beverlywoodsES/Documents/Octresponsibility.pdf>

**National School Breakfast Week 9/3-9/8**

**Website of the Week:** This activity could be adaptable to any grade level. It takes excuses and has the kids turn them into statements of responsibility. : <http://character.org/lessons/lesson-plans/mixed/shades-cahaba-elementary-school/>

### Three Words A Day

- Sept. 1 Decide to learn.
- Sept. 2 Respect your teachers.
- Sept. 3 You look great.
- Sept. 4 Kindness always returns.
- Sept. 5 Improve your mind.
- Sept. 6 Neatness is nice.
- Sept. 7 Always try again.
- Sept. 8 Can't won't do.
- Sept. 9 Value your friends.
- Sept. 10 Education is success.
- Sept. 11 Try new things.
- Sept. 12 Forgive yourself often.
- Sept. 13 Other people care.
- Sept. 14 Daydreaming is fun.
- Sept. 15 Someone needs you.
- Sept. 16 Doodle a little.
- Sept. 17 Believe in people.
- Sept. 18 Life has troubles.
- Sept. 19 Just lighten up.
- Sept. 20 Attitude determines happiness.
- Sept. 21 Imagination goes anywhere.
- Sept. 22 Cheating isn't right.
- Sept. 23 Accept someone different.
- Sept. 24 Listeners are friends.
- Sept. 25 What interests you?
- Sept. 26 Include new kids.
- Sept. 27 Share your talents.
- Sept. 28 Always be sincere.
- Sept. 29 Everyone is special.
- Sept. 30 Try harder today.

### Pinwheels for Peace September 21, 2018

Lessons:

[http://www.pinwheelsforpeace.com/pinwheelsforpeace/pinwheel\\_lesson\\_plan.pdf](http://www.pinwheelsforpeace.com/pinwheelsforpeace/pinwheel_lesson_plan.pdf)



For your  
Calendar

Sept. 3  
Labor  
Day

Sept. 26  
National  
Character Day

Sept. 15  
Hispanic Heritage Awareness  
Begins

Sept. 17  
Constitution  
Day

Sept. 21  
Peace Day

Cyberbullying  
Awareness Month

## Dinner Dilemmas

Purpose: To create family discussions that promotes Character Education in Pinellas County.

Dinner Dilemmas are designed to go home once a month with the students. Schools that send home a weekly newsletter could print one dilemma each week in its publication. During the week families are asked to discuss the dilemma. It is hoped that families will talk about the dilemma and decide how the character quality of the month relates to the situation presented. It is further hoped that families will discuss the dilemma of the week and decide how the character quality of the month applies to each family member.

### Week 1

Situation: Sam received an expensive video game for his birthday and could not wait to show it to his friends. One of his friends wanted to borrow it.

Dilemma: On one hand it's good to share. On the other hand it is Sam's responsibility to take care of his possessions.

Discussion: What advice do you have for Sam?

### Week 2

Situation: Sue heard her friends spreading an untrue rumor about another girl in her class.

Dilemma: On one hand, it is responsible to inform someone when others are saying untrue or hurtful things. On the other hand, a responsible person does not spread rumors, and should tell people who do that it is wrong.

Discussion: What advice do you have for Sue?

### Week 3

Situation: Sue is on a team that is doing a research project on water conservation. Sue feels she is doing most of the work.

Dilemma: On one hand, Sue has the responsibility to make sure her team makes a good grade. On the other hand, it is not Sue's responsibility to do all the work.

Discussion: What advice do you have for Sue?

### Week 4

Situation: Sam saw his sibling taking money out of his mother's purse.

Dilemma: On one hand Sam has the responsibility not to get his sibling in trouble by telling. On the other hand Sam has the responsibility to tell his mother.

Discussion: What advice do you have for Sam?

## National Character Day September 26, 2018:

[LET IT RiPPLE | Suggested  
Events for Educators](#)

[www.letitripple.org](http://www.letitripple.org)

CHARACTER DAY FOR EDUCATORS: Thank you for being part of the global Character Day initiative! Below are some ideas to help you create your own Character Day, based on ...

<http://www.letitripple.org/character-day/suggested-events-for-educators>

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

Quotes: Starting the week of September 3

Week 1 - "Remember the three R's: respect for self; respect for others; and responsibility for all your actions."  
Unknown

Week 2 - "Never put off until tomorrow what you can do today."  
Benjamin Franklin

Week 3-"We create our character by the daily decisions we make." Austin Bror

Week 4-"Accept responsibility for your life. Know that it is you who will get you where you want to go, no one else." Les Brown, American clarinetist & a leader of popular "big band"

### LITERATURE IDEAS about Responsibility

- Abolafia, Yossi.. Harry in Trouble.
- Dahlstedt. The Terrible Wave
- Gardiner, John. Stone Fox
- Hoban, Lillian. Awful Thursday
- Brown, Marc.Arthur's Pet Business
- Day, A. Frank and Ernest.
- Green, Norma. The Hole in the Dike
- Wells, Rosemary. Fritz and the Mess Fairy