

Ideas For School Activities and Programs



Developing Awareness

- Posters in classrooms, doorways, common areas and by water fountains displaying common definitions, the six pillars and the words of the month/week.
- Morning announcements made related to the six pillars
- Quotations are shared and discussed weekly/daily
- Library displays the Five Marks of Character and establishes a companion reading list for words of the week and the Marks of Character; Trustworthiness, Respect, Accountability, Citizenship & Kindness
- Wall of Character featuring pictures and biographies of students
- Faculty training programs held for all staff members
- Assembly (age and grade appropriate) held to introduce or reinforce the pillars
- Ethical challenges posted in the hallways or other common areas
- Spectator guidelines enforcing the Marks of Character shared at athletic events

Reaching Out, Involvement and Integration

- Community service activities initiated or continued as part of citizenship and responsibility
- Mentoring programs for incoming students, and students with special needs or challenges
- Door decorating contest held by homerooms
- Host random (planned) acts of kindness days/weeks for pillar of caring
- "Grandparents," staff, or older students read and discuss storybooks to young students with moral themes
- Essay contests judged by community/business partners
- Identified school partners participate in character building activities
- Publish articles in school and parent newspapers/newsletters
- Host parent information nights
- Send parents "HOME WORK" on the Five Marks of Character
- Presentations made to service clubs
- Encourage businesses to post Character on Track ads on their marquis or billboards
- Make a large banner to hang in the school or other civic areas
- Prepare PSA's for radio, television or morning announcements

Special Events

- Host a "Speak No Evil" Day
- Identify local "person of character" posters with recognition
- Host a community and school-wide Character On Track awards program or participate in the Youth of Character Awards program offered by Character on Track.
- Students present essays, quotations, art, music or drama at city/county government or civic events
- Host a Character On Track in sports event, discussing ethical issues that pertain to sporting events
- Sponsor a Character on Track ribbon contest and/or participate in red ribbon week
- Hold a collection drive (collect examples of people practicing the Million Acts of Random Kindness)
- Recognize students with a sticker when seen acting with character.
- Set up a service club or integrate Character on Track with student council to sponsor Character on Track events
- Conduct a late night or overnight retreat with teens to study ethical behavior and school/community problems
- Host a speech contest using one of Five Marks of Character for each month
- Anonymously track positive behaviors during a selected period (passing in the halls/cafeteria behaviors, etc.) Post the results and/or recognize students for good behavior
- Host a moral courage day when students study world issues such as the Holocaust, World Hunger or Child Abuse
- Host a seminar on cheating and stealing