

Character Education Resource Center News You Can Use

January 2018

"And now we welcome the New Year. Full of things that have never been."

-Rainer Maria Rilke

RESOURCES FOR YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES

WHAT IS WOOP? WOOP is a practical, accessible, evidence-based activity that helps students find and fulfill their wishes. In character development terms, WOOP builds self-control.

<https://www.characterlab.org/about>

KID SCOOP: This program enables students to be informed and involved citizens and become active participants in their local community. The program features an in-paper section for and by students. A team approach and standards-based instructional materials help foster academic success, a joy of learning and family discussions.

<https://www.kidscoop.com/>

CREATING A CULTURE OF CHARACTER: A Virtues Project:

Strategy 1: Value the Language of the School's Core Values *Language shapes character. The way we speak, and the words we use, have great power to discourage or to inspire. The language of virtues helps us to replace shaming and blaming with personal responsibility and respect.*

Strategy 2: Recognize Teachable Moments at Home and in School

Teachers, parents, and other adults who are present and listening with compassion and detachment, may use teachable moments to help students reflect on their behaviors, their choices, and their actions.

Strategy 3: Set Clear Boundaries

Virtues-based boundaries focus on respect, restorative justice and reparation to create a climate of peace and safety. Personal boundaries help us to build healthy relationships and protect our time, our energy, and our health.

Strategy 4: Honor the Spirit

This strategy begins with respect for the dignity of each person and encourages us to make time for reflection, reverence, and beauty.

<https://virtuesproject.com/>

DID YOU KNOW?

Researchers found a substantial increase in suicides among teen girls and boys in the U.S. from 1975 to 2015, with the rate among girls hitting a record high. From 2007 to 2015 alone, suicide rates doubled among teen girls and by more than 30 percent among teen boys.

<http://time.com/4887282/teen-suicide-rate-cdc/>



WHAT'S WORTH READING!

[7 Surprising Parenting Solutions That Boost Kids' School Success](#)

One of our most popular conference speakers is Michele Borba. In this blog, she offers parents advice described in these seven headings: enough sleep, applaud efforts, respect learning styles, pay attention to peers, value family meals, squelch stress, and tailor expectation.

Social Justice Standards: The Teaching Tolerance Anti-Bias Framework

"The Social Justice Standards are a set of anchor standards and age-appropriate learning outcomes divided into four domains - identity, diversity, justice, and action."

This and other publications can be found at:

<http://www.tolerance.org/magazine/publications>

Character education for Robots: Our Artificially Intelligent Creations Will Need to Reflect Who We Are as Digital Citizens!

Jason Ohler examines the question about helping students, as well as ourselves, to make the complex ethical decisions required in living a digital life style.

<http://www.jasonohlerideas.com/so/4M0k6KVK?cid=0 - /main>

ESSAY CONTEST RESULTS

The third annual essay content for students in grades 6-8 and 9-12, a collaboration with The Flying Leatherneck Historical Foundation and the Character Education Resource Center has been completed. Find out who the winners are and the schools they attend:

<https://www.flyingleathernecks.org/education/2017-essay-contest-winners/>

Comment/Critique/Unsubscribe

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Revisit the blog entries from 2017!

<http://sites.sandiego.edu/character/>

January: CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT: Two Step Intervention Program, and 25 Do & Don't Tips

February: QUALITIES OF CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP: The five qualities of character-educators: missionaries, a knowledge source and provider, communicators/collaborators/consensus – builders, standard-bearers, and researchers/evaluators.

March: PERFORMANCE AND MORAL CHARACTER: A discussion of *performance character* as the pathway to excellence and *moral character* as the pathway to ethical behavior.

April: QUESTION-ASKING: A Few Experiences: My three opinions about question-asking “ownership, “knowledge expansion,” and “partnership.”

May: A CHARACTER EDUCATION FRAMEWORK: Many schools and school districts use the “Virtues-A-Month Program.” This blog described the Cobb County character education program.

June: GRADUATION SPEECH–FOUR KEYS TO SUCCESS: The keys described are competence, responsibility, teaching, and values.

July: WHAT IS THIS THING CALLED LEADERSHIP?: In this blog, a few historians and educators share their views about leadership. All support this quote: *Character is the center pole, the core of leadership effectiveness.*

August: IT'S ABOUT SKILL DEVELOPMENT!: Social skill development should be the essential part of schools' character education initiatives, with character strengths and emotional skills as the other two.

September: TEACHING PROMISES, PRACTICES AND A PLEDGE: Ten promises, ten practices, and “The Positive Teacher Pledge” are described.

October: AC-CENT-TU-ATE THE POSITIVE IN YOUR CLASSROOM: The why and what of “positive thinking” are discussed.

November: GRATITUDE AT WORK, HOME , AND SCHOOL: Researchers found that students who were more likely to be grateful to others showed higher academic interest, grades, extracurricular involvement, and had lower interest in risky behaviors.

December: MAY I QUOTE YOU?: This blog offers quotes about what character is and why teach it.

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