

Sharing Strategies

Ways to Develop Character ...

Character Education is a partnership among family, school and community to build positive, caring and supportive school communities where attributes of good character are taught, modeled, practiced and celebrated in everyday actions. Here are some strategies to help build a greater sense of caring in our schools and communities:

- Research the following people to find out what they did to create a greater sense of caring:
 - Mother Theresa
 - Ernie Combs
 - Tommy Douglas
 - Norman Bethune
 - Stephen Lewis
 - Sir Charles Banting & Sir William Best
- Using the newspaper, find articles where caring and kindness are demonstrated. Follow up with a discussion and by writing about the difference these actions made to an individual, group or community.
- Develop a poster campaign focused on our responsibilities in caring for our communities or the environment.
- Use a piece of literature and have students focus on characters who demonstrated caring in some way. Have them write about how the outcome of the story might have differed if this character had acted in another manner.
- Brainstorm about “Random Acts of Kindness” and discuss how it affects other people and yourself personally.
- Take one of the quotes at the side (or any other) and discuss or have students write about the following: What does this mean to you? What does this quote remind you of? Tell about a time in your life, where the meaning behind this quote fit with your experience.

Notable Quotes

“It’s not about how much you do, but how much love you put into what you do that counts. Life isn’t worth living unless lived for other people.”

Mother Theresa

“One can pay back the loan of gold, but one lies forever in debt to those who are caring.”

Malayan Proverb

“If you want to lift yourself up, lift someone else up.”

Booker T. Washington

“Love is like a smile – neither has any value unless given away.”

Bernard of Clairvaux

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

Mahatma Gandhi

“We should behave to our friends as we wish our friends to behave to us.”

Aristotle

“Until we extend our circle of caring and compassion to all living things, humanity will not find peace.”

Dr. Albert Schweitzer

“You can accomplish by kindness what you cannot by force.”

Pubilius Syrus

“Never look down on anybody unless you're helping him up.”

Jesse Jackson



Supporting respectful, responsible and fair school communities

More Sharing ...

- Work alongside students to connect their community service hours with the concept of making a difference through caring, kindness and meeting the needs of others.
- Have your students select someone who has demonstrated caring towards them. Write a letter of thanks and recognition to that person.
- Encourage students to write a narrative about a time in their lives when a person demonstrated caring (perhaps themselves) and thereby made a positive impact in the life of someone else.
- Conduct a food/clothing/toy drive to help others.
- Make lists of what caring looks like, feels like and sounds like. Post these in halls and classes.
- Model caring, kindness and consideration for others in your everyday interactions with students, parents, community members and other staff in the school ... our students are keen observers of our daily actions.

Check Out Our Staff Website!

Go to <https://www1.scdsb.on.ca>
Sign on
Click on Teaching
Click on Resources
Click on Commit to Character/Safe Schools

Using this tool you will be able locate various successful strategies and helpful hints with the aim of developing character in our schools and communities. Among other things, you will find:

- Teacher resource suggestions
- PDFs for our “Commit to Character” banners and posters (both for the individual attributes and for the collective group)
- Order forms for our “Commit to Character” bookmarks and note cards
- Attribute book lists and lesson plans
- “Character Connections” newsletters
- Strategy and Quote sharing
- Character development videos
- Links to other useful character development websites

Character Sites on the Web

In addition to the Commit to Character page available on our SCDSB staff website, here are some other useful places to view on the Internet:

www.goodcharacter.com

www.character.org

www.charactereducation.com

www.charactercounts.org

www.cortland.edu/character

For more information about
Commit to Character initiatives
and strategies, please contact
Daryl Halliday, Principal of
Character Education and Safe Schools at
(705) 734-6363 ext. 11298.



Simcoe County District School Board

1170 Highway 26 West
Midhurst, Ontario
L0L 1X0

Phone: (705) 728-7570
Fax: (705) 728-2265
www.scdsb.on.ca