

Character Education  
Junior Month-By-Month Theme

Resource available: “Problem with Bullies Kit” connects to language arts, health and social studies curricula. Components include: 6 Guided Reading titles (6 copies), Read-a-loud/Independent Reading titles (4 titles), Independent Reads (10 titles). Innovative Teacher Resource guide available.

Month	Character Attribute	Grade Six Suggested Activity
September	Respect	Class discussion: “Respect” - What it looks like and what it sounds like in the classroom – brainstorm student and teacher expectations – go over “Ground Rules for Discussion” found in Grade Six Anti-Bullying Curriculum Page 37, Appendix page 2. Students Activities and Writing Assignments: <a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/YCC/BeingResponsible.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/YCC/BeingResponsible.html</a>
October	Initiative	Teach “Initiative” through being a good friend with S.A.F.E. Strategies Role Plays (i.e. Grade Six Anti-bullying Curriculum Page 44, Appendix page 9) Student Activities and Writing Assignments: <a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Diligence.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Diligence.html</a>
November	Courage (Bravery)	Read the short novel “Hiroshima” and view “Hiroshima Maiden”, follow the discussion questions re: courage, friendship, peer pressure, perseverance, caring, etc. Student Activities and Writing Assignments: <a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Courage.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Courage.html</a> To help students become proactive in assisting others to solve conflicts: <a href="http://disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/elementarylessons/pdfs/dreamofpeace.pdf">http://disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/elementarylessons/pdfs/dreamofpeace.pdf</a>
December	Compassion (Empathy)	Teach “Empathy” with Grade Six Anti-Bullying Curriculum Page 38-40, Appendix pages 3-5. *** <b>Idea</b> - Response Journal #1: Pretend that you are Melea's <b>classmate</b> and you have just read her journal entry. Write a response to her based on what you know about bullying. Student Activities and Writing Assignments: <a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Caring.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Caring.html</a>
January	Optimism	Teach “Optimism” through viewing “Pollyanna” – through the power of positive thinking, a young orphan girl is able to change the lives of an entire population of a small town <b>OR</b> “Mulan” – by staying true to herself, Mulan brings victory to her nation and honour to her family.
February	Honesty	We all know it’s fine to talk about telling the truth all the time, but is it always the right thing to do? Is it always a good thing to do? Is it always necessary? What if the truth will hurt someone’s feelings? This is a good subject for a discussion. Some people say it’s OK to tell a little white lie if you’re doing it so that feelings don’t get hurt. Some people say it’s never OK

		<p>to lie, no matter what. ‘Think of a situation where you told a little white lie. What was the reason? What did you learn about your character when it happened?’</p> <p><b>*** Idea</b> - It is very important at this time to discuss the rumor mill and gossiping. Students, girls especially, need to understand that just because they heard or saw something happen, they are not free to tell others. They must consider whether their telling will have a negative impact on others. So... the ‘Susan, Jane told me that she thinks you are .....’ should not be shared with Susan. Jane may very well have said something negative about Susan, but this information should not be shared with Susan because it will upset her.</p> <p><b>** Idea</b> - HONESTY can be demonstrated and acknowledged in many ways by adults, teens and children alike. Here is a true story about honesty that happened in a York Region public high school. A student approached his teacher and said, ‘I think my mark has been calculated incorrectly. It’s 95 and I think it should be 85.’ The teacher said he doubted if he was off in his calculations by 10 points, but reviewed the mark with the student. Sure enough, the student’s mark should have been 85. ‘Because I appreciate your honesty,’ the teacher said, ‘let’s split the difference. We’ll make it a 90.’ The student declined. ‘I earned 85 and that’s what my mark should be.’ When that story was told around the Character Council meeting table, members were impressed by the depth of the student’s honesty, especially in this highly competitive double cohort year when higher marks increase the odds of being accepted in university. Why don’t you use this story as a discussion point with your family. Would you have been as honest as this student? How hard would it have been to be in this student’s shoes? How does this story make you feel?</p> <p>Writing Assignments: <a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Trustworthiness.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Trustworthiness.html</a></p>
March	Integrity	<p>Teach ‘Integrity’ with Grade Six Anti-Bullying Curriculum Page 27/28, Majority Rules - The Onlooker - Subtask 4 – Lesson 1</p> <p>Students will come to understand their role in bullying situations and what a person with integrity and good character would do.</p> <p>Student Activities and Writing Assignments:  <a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Integrity.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Integrity.html</a>  <a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/BCBC/Values.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/BCBC/Values.html</a></p>
April	Fairness	<p>Teach ‘Fairness’ with read alouds: <input type="checkbox"/> The Hare and the Tortoise: A Fable from Aesop, retold by Helen Ward (Grades 4-5) and <input type="checkbox"/> Can You Sue Your Parents for Malpractice? by Paula Danzinger (Grades 6-7).</p> <p>Build a character tree in your classroom where students add leaves to show examples of good character (fair play) they have witnessed or heard about.</p> <p>Student Activities and Writing Assignments:  <a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Fairness.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Fairness.html</a></p> <p>To teach fair treatment of others regardless of colour or ethnicity:</p>

		<a href="http://disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/elementarylessons/pdfs/beautifulworld.pdf">http://disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/elementarylessons/pdfs/beautifulworld.pdf</a>
May	Perseverance (Resilience)	<p>Teacher “Perseverance” through viewing the movie “Miracle Worker”- "The Miracle Worker" will help introduce children to Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan. Their story shows the strength and power of the human will and its ability to triumph over the most devastating disabilities. Helen Keller is one of the most remarkable people ever to have lived. She is a role model for a person who triumphs over profound disabilities. Anne Sullivan is a role model for a sensitive and innovative teacher. Without Sullivan, Keller would probably not have realized her great potential.</p> <p>Student Activities and Writing Assignments:  <a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Caring.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Caring.html</a>  <a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Caring.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Caring.html</a></p> <p>To help students identify conflicts:  To help students find ways to settle conflicts without fighting:  <a href="http://disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/elementarylessons/pdfs/newyears.pdf">http://disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/elementarylessons/pdfs/newyears.pdf</a>  <a href="http://disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/elementarylessons/pdfs/dreamofpeace.pdf">http://disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/elementarylessons/pdfs/dreamofpeace.pdf</a></p>