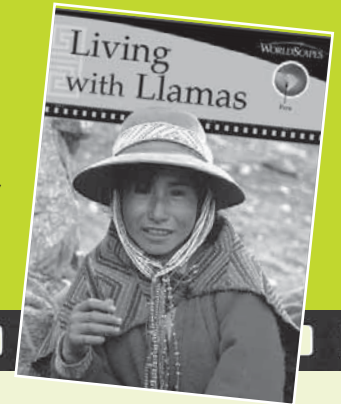


Peru



WORLDSCAPES®

CHARACTER COUNTS!™ Week 2007 FREE Activities for Students Ages 8–12



After reading *Living with Llamas* from the WorldScapes series, complete one or more of the following activities related to the CHARACTER COUNTS! Pillar: **Responsibility**

Activity One

Show and Tell

Have students represent **responsibility** in action at school, at home, or in their neighborhood. They may use photos or drawings and captions, or create a collage with an explanatory paragraph to demonstrate how **responsibility** is carried out. Students may choose one or more people (including themselves) to feature.

In documenting their work, ask students to consider the following:

- Tell about big **responsibilities** the person has. Tell about some of his or her smaller ones. Which **responsibilities** are more important? What makes them more important?
- What would happen if this person forgot to do his or her job? How would it affect others?
- What kinds of **responsibilities** do you have? How do they affect others?

Extension Activity:

Students honor the people in their presentation with copies of it or help to organize a day to celebrate and thank those people for the things they do. Remind students of “behind the scenes” people—those with important **responsibilities** who aren’t always “seen” or easily recognized. (For example, at school—administrators, secretaries, bus drivers, janitors, etc.)

Living with Llamas: Classroom Discussion Questions

- What **responsibilities** do you have? Compare your **responsibilities** to Luisa’s in *Living with Llamas*. How are they the similar? How are they different?
- Luisa shares many **responsibilities** with her family. What **responsibilities** do you share with your family?
- What does *Living with Llamas* teach about **responsibility**?

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Activity Two

PotatoFest

Students organize a class Potato Potluck and bring in various dishes or snacks made from potatoes from various potato-growing countries around the world (don't forget Peru!).

Assign students to carry out different **responsibilities** for the event—

- research potato-growing countries and their native potato recipes
- make flyers or posters for the event
- cook and bring in the food
- compile and create a recipe booklet

Extension Activity: Students create country displays representing their dishes.

Activity Three

Homes for Pets

Find a humane society, local pet rescue, or animal shelter in your community or online that offers animals for adoption. Request profiles of the animals. Have students read about the animals: their history, character, needs, etc.

Have students create signs to post around the school, advertising the kind of owners the animals need and the important **responsibilities** required to care for the animals.

Extension Activity: Students write interview questions for the caretakers at the animal shelters. Questions should inquire about the various **responsibilities** the caretakers have for the shelter's animals. Arrange a time for a caretaker to visit the classroom for an interview or to complete a survey by mail or e-mail.

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Activity Four

Pass-It-On

Students play a ball-tossing game to discuss **responsibility**.

1. Write each of the following words on index cards: *self, family, friend, community, country, and planet Earth*.
2. Place the cards in a bag or other container.
3. Students toss a beach ball around the classroom. (Optional: Students toss the ball as music plays.)
4. When you say "Freeze" (or when the music stops), the student holding the ball draws a card, reads the word aloud, and names a **responsibility** relating to what the word on the card represents. (For example, if the student picks *planet Earth*, the student names a **responsibility** a person has to planet Earth, such as "recycling.")

At the end of the game, discuss the named **responsibilities** and their importance.

Extension Activity: Teacher writes the named **responsibilities** on a chart during the game. The class discusses the various **responsibilities** and brainstorms ways to carry out a **responsibility** as a class.

Activity Five

Responsibility Role Play

1. On index cards, write brief descriptions of various scenarios or situations in which personal **responsibility** is challenged (for example, *Your work for a group science project is due on Monday. You have a lot to get done. A friend asks you to spend the weekend at his/her family's beach house. What will you do?*).
2. Indicate the number of people needed to role play the scenario.
3. Place index cards in a bag.
4. Students take turns picking a card, choosing roles, and acting out the situation.

After each role play, discuss how **responsibility** was or was not demonstrated and the importance of personal **responsibility** and responsible behavior.

Extension Activity: Students refine their role plays and perform them for another class or at a school assembly.