

CHARACTER COUNTS!® WEEK

October 18-24, 2020

Family Tips to Building Good Character at Home

- Play your own version of the games Pictionary, charades, scavenger hunt or skits to show examples of the Pillar traits.
- Together, create a weekly family responsibility chart. For younger children, add a song, dance, rhythm or counting while chore is being completed – helping to make it positive, fun and educational. Decide on a family activity when everyone completes their tasks.
- Build a tower of trust with blocks, sticky notes on the wall (write examples on them), or small containers to demonstrate building of trust. Add to it when a family member does something to demonstrate building trust, and take away from it when trust is broken to demonstrate what it takes to re-establish trust.
- Plan a family service project in your community (help an elderly neighbor, donate unused clothing-toys-household items to a local shelter, collect and return empty cans and donate proceeds to a person or charity in need, recycle together, plan a neighborhood clean-up project & invite neighbors to join you, plant and maintain a flower or vegetable garden together).
- Establish “prime time” – a short time at the end of the day for you and your child to sit and talk about how your day went – giving opportunity for both to share positives, challenges and feelings.
- Coordinate a block party or neighborhood night where you get together and share a meal and/or play games together.
- When watching television, movies or exploring the Internet together, take opportunities to point out and discuss when a person or situation is or is not demonstrating one of the Pillar traits.
- Create a family pledge and post it as a reminder of how all family members will work together to demonstrate good character.
- Make puppets/characters out of socks, paper towel/toilet paper rolls and miscellaneous items around the house. Use to demonstrate what the Pillar traits look like in action.
- As a family, create a quiet calming place in the home where a child or adult can go to when they need time to themselves.
- Design character place mats for the family table. Eat meals together using the place mats. Give examples of situations that day where you observed each Pillar trait being demonstrated or not demonstrated.
- Start a “Character Can.” Using spare change or buttons, fill the jar each time a family member demonstrates one of the Pillar traits. When the can is full, establish a family reward (i.e. family ice cream social, game night, movie night, read a story together).
- Make homemade cards together. Share with sick or elderly family, friends or neighbors or take to a local nursing home or shelter.
- Create a family mural on a wall or large poster board. Draw or cut-out pictures from a magazine or newspaper that demonstrate family members and the Pillar traits in action.