

Kids Building Character through Technology:
Courtesy Through A grant from AzTEA & Owest Communications

	Air Date	Date	Class	Character Trait
1	Week 19	Dec 18-22	K1	Cooperation
2	Week 20	Jan 8-12	K2	Gratefulness (Thankful)
3	Week 17	Dec 4-8	1A	Patience
4	Week 18	Dec 11-15	1B	Honesty
5	Week 15	Nov. 20-24	2A	Self Management (Self Control)
6	Week 16	Nov. 27-Dec.1	2B	Trustworthy
7	Week 13	Nov. 6-9	3A	Compassionate (Empathy, Tolerance)
8	Week 14	Nov 13-17	3B	Independent
9	Week 11	Oct. 23-27	4A	Generosity
10	Week 12	Oct. 30-Nov. 3	4B	Communication
11	Week 9	Oct. 9-12	5A	Responsibility
12	Week 10	Oct. 16-20	5B	Perseverance
13	Week 4	Sept 5-8	6A	Respect
14	Week 3	Aug. 29-Sept. 1	6B	Confidence (Self Esteem)
15	Week 7	Sept 25-29	7A	Leadership
16	Week 8	Oct. 2-6	7B	Industrious (Self Motivated)
17	Week 5	Sept 11-15	8A	Academic Achievement
18	Week 6	Sept 18-22	8B	Community Spirit (Socially Aware)

Teaching Character traits in the classroom develops virtues that are good for the individual and also for society. We can teach these virtues to the children, but they will understand and assimilate these traits when they are taught by themselves and by their peers. Kids Building Character through technology is a way for students to achieve this and also introduce them to real world applications.

Your responsibility is to have a finished product (video) to air on the PJN-Network during your assigned week. The one thing to remember is...don't panic, you are not alone. The kids are learning technology and so are you. Computers, video cameras, video editing, animation and music software are available if you choose, or keep it simple.

Some ideas for your segment are:

<input type="checkbox"/> Puppets	<input type="checkbox"/> Kid Pix Pictures
<input type="checkbox"/> Cutouts	<input type="checkbox"/> Movie Trailer
<input type="checkbox"/> Still photos	<input type="checkbox"/> Music Video
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay animation	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-d Animation	<input type="checkbox"/> TV show
<input type="checkbox"/> Power Point	<input type="checkbox"/> Game Show

If you need assistance, please let me know. I can help you, or I can send a student to help you. We are here to help one another learn (including teachers!) When these are all finished, I am going to compile them into a documentary and it will be presented at the WOW conference in March. (Maybe entered into a film festival or two).

What is Character Building?

Your character is the sum of all the qualities that make you who you are. It's your values, your thoughts, your words, your actions in other words, it's YOU. When people review your work, your activities and interests, it gives them a glimpse into your character. Below are many attributes that contribute to your individual character. Building on these elements can help give you a stronger character and make you a more attractive prospect as a potential student and adult. Like it or not, you will often be judged by your character. ¹

Cooperation

Cooperation is the ability and willingness to work with others. There aren't many things you can accomplish totally by yourself – it takes cooperation to make things happen. What are some ways in which you can cooperate with your teachers to do well in school? How can you cooperate with your parents on things that go on at home?

Gratefulness (Thankful)

Thankfulness: Being grateful and saying so, or being considerate. Have you said thank you, or written a card?

Patience

Patience is the ability to wait for things without whining or complaining. It is a quality that many people do not have, and it can take a long time to develop. You might want something NOW, but sometimes you have to be patient and wait. Who is the most patient person in your home? What are some ways in which you have been impatient lately?

Honesty

Honesty is truthfulness. It means you are not going to lie or cheat or steal. Honesty is one of the building blocks of strong character, and it is something you display every day of your life. Do you think of yourself as an honest person? Do you think other people consider you to be honest? Is it ever OK to NOT be honest with people?

Self Management (Self Control)

Discipline doesn't just mean punishment. When we're talking about character, it means self control. If you have discipline, it means you take control of your own actions. Why is self-discipline important to your success at school, at home, and in your outside activities? Can you think of a recent example in which you did NOT show good self-discipline? How did that situation turn out?

¹http://www.educationplanner.com/education_planner/discovering_article.asp?sponsor=2859&articleName=Character_Development

Trustworthy

Trustworthiness means you are worthy of someone's trust. People know they can trust you and believe in you because of the kind of person you are. People who are trustworthy are often given a lot of responsibility because they can get the job done. Who is one of the most trustworthy people you know? What are some ways that you can show your parents that you are trustworthy?

Compassionate (Empathy, Tolerance)

Compassion is an awareness of other people's problems and a desire to help. It can involve your family, your friends, or total strangers. Do you consider yourself to be a person of compassion? What are some situations in which you have shown compassion?

Independent

To be able to achieve things through your own motivation, and no outside direction. The ability to read on our own, and working on homework independently. The declaration of independence was made so that people would not take advantage of our situation. By being independent we know what we need to do in order to achieve our own goals.

Generosity

You are a generous person to your friends and peers. You like to be there when a friend needs someone to talk to, or when they need a favor. In (and out of) the art classroom/critique you feel like you need to try as hard as you can to engage with a discussion and give the most appropriate and thoughtful feedback you can. Conversely, you hate to ask for favors — you feel like you should be self sufficient, and are always genuinely grateful when other people help you in any way.²

Community Spirit (Socially Aware)

Citizenship is the way you conduct yourself within a community, such as the town you live in or the school you go to. Good citizens give back to that community by doing things that make it better, while poor citizens try to tear it down. What are some things you could do to show good citizenship in your school? What actions would be examples of poor citizenship in the town or city you live in?

Responsibility

Responsibility is what you are showing when you own up to something. When you are responsible, you take control of your actions and your obligations. It might also mean taking the blame for something that is your fault rather than pointing the finger at someone else. Do you accept responsibility for your actions? In what ways do you need to start becoming more responsible?

² <http://www.turbulence.org/cgi-bin/michael/guide.cgi?chap=09>

Perseverance

Continue steadfastly, especially in something that is difficult or tedious, when life hands you lemons, you have to learn to make lemonade,” relates to the definition of perseverance.

Respect

Respect means showing regard for other people’s feelings or possessions. It is an attitude that you display every day. Showing respect for others is very important in the way you relate to people, and it is a HUGE part of your character. What are some ways you can show respect for your teachers during class? What are some of the harmful things that can happen when people show disrespect for others?

Confidence (Self Esteem)

Confidence is a feeling of belief, or of being certain of something. It’s also called self-esteem. Being confident in yourself and your abilities is very important to your success in school and in life. What are some things that you feel very confident about? In what areas of your life do you lack self-confidence? What are some things that could make you feel more confident in yourself?

Leadership

Leadership means taking charge or setting an example for others. You don’t have to be the smartest student or the best athlete or the most popular kid in school to be a leader. Anyone can be a leader – you just need good work habits and strong character. What are some of the character traits of a good leader? How can YOU be a leader at school, or on your team, or in your outside activities?

Industrious (Self Motivated)

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Academic Achievement

What are the characteristics of a successful student? While the definition of "successful student" has changed over the years, today's youth need to know a great deal more than reading, writing, and arithmetic in order to succeed. According to key business leaders in the US, students who are to succeed in 21st century America must be: able to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information; able to effectively communicate with others; proficient in science, mathematics, computer/technical skills, foreign languages, as well as history, geography, and global awareness; capable of collaboratively working in culturally diverse settings; leaders who see projects through to completion; responsible decision makers who are self-motivated and active political participants; and ethical individuals who are committed to their families, communities, and colleagues (Nidds & McGerald, 1996). Research shows that adults with high levels of education are more likely to be employed, and to earn higher salaries

Communication

Communication is the means by which people exchange information. The people who get ahead in life are the people who can communicate. What are the different forms of incoming communication (the ways you receive information) and outgoing communication (the ways you give information to others)? Why is it important to develop ALL of your communication skills?

Sources:

Character Based Reading List. Books that have good character traits.

<http://www.scu.edu/ethics/practicing/focusareas/education/summerreading.html>

Historical Biographies that display Character Building in historical figures:

http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/char_ed/stories/biographical.html

A good overview of many other character traits.

http://www.educationplanner.com/education_planner/discovering_article.asp?sponsor=2859&articleName=Character_Development