

Character Agreement/Discipline Policy

In order to establish a classroom environment that values the six pillars of character (Caring, Responsibility, Fairness, Trustworthiness, Citizenship and Respect) the students and I have begun our year by working together to create a Character Agreement. A series of read-alouds, Thinking Maps, and whole-class discussions have made the concept of good character accessible to my first grade class.

Six Pillars of Character

Responsibility	Fairness	Trustworthiness	Citizenship	Respect	Caring
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow directions• Do your homework• Take care of our classroom• Take care of our materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share with others• Take turns• Help each other• Follow the rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Always tell the truth• Keep your promises• Take ownership for things we do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share• Help others• Follow rules• Use manners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow directions• Help others• Raise your hand• Listen• Keep our hands to ourselves	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help others• Share• Say please, thank you, excuse me, and sorry• Be nice to each other



Additionally, a “clip chart” system will be used as reinforcement of the agreements we have made as a class. The following are the basic understandings of this plan:

- Each day all students will start the day with their clip in the middle of the chart on the green—Ready to Learn.
- During the course of the day, the clothespins move up and down the chart based upon the behavioral choices each student makes. Good behavior causes the clothespin to move up one level. Conversely, inappropriate behavior will cause the clothespin to move down one level.
- Any student who has been asked to move his/her clothespin down a level or two has the opportunity to improve his behavior and see his clothespin rise to a better level. The thought that a child is offered a chance at redemption is not only a powerful motivator for the student, it also enables me as the teacher to act on problem behavior and not just talk about it.

- Students fill out the behavior slips at the end of the day and color the level they reached in order to keep parents regularly informed.

Name _____
Date _____

Off the Chart
Top of the Chart

Outstanding
Great Job
Good Day
Ready to Learn
Think About It
Teacher's Choice
Parent Contact

- Sharing a student's behavior in the classroom with parents can really contribute to positive behavior being recognized and becoming more of a habit than a happenstance. Conversely, negative/poor behavior choices can be addressed and dealt with appropriately and in a timely manner

Rewards

Students are given behavior sticker chart. For each day where their clip is on green or higher, they get a sticker. If a student ends the day on "Outstanding", they will earn 2 stickers. For every 20 stickers your child receives on their sticker card they will get to pick a class coupon. The coupon will entitle them to various rewards such as sitting at the teacher's desk, writing in pen, having lunch with the teacher and a friend, bringing a stuffed animal to school for a day, etc...

They may also receive stickers or other treats for good behavior.

Thank you in advance for supporting me in creating a positive and safe environment in which students can learn and become individuals of character. It is one of my goals that each child will be a responsible and respectful learner.

