

FOURTH GRADE

Teacher's Guide

Mission Statement

It is the mission of Learning for Life to enable young people to become responsible individuals by teaching positive character traits, career development, leadership, and life skills so they can make ethical choices and achieve their full potential.

Special Note: There are 36 lesson plans in this book divided into the following categories: Respect, Responsibility, Honesty/Trust, Caring/Fairness, Perseverance, Self-Discipline, Courage, Citizenship, and Life Skills. Even though lessons are divided into categories, many overlap and focus on similar issues.

CONTENTS

Introduction3

Classroom Instructions4

Good Books Teach Character5



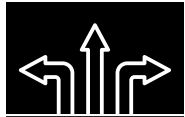
RESPECT9

Ethnic Heritage 11

Race, Religion, and Culture 19

Respecting Differences25

World Cultures31



RESPONSIBILITY37

Being a Good Worker39

Choices45

Decision Making53

Meeting Deadlines61

Socially Responsible Behavior.....67



HONESTY/TRUST73

People Who Cheat75

Trust Me—I Won't Let You Down.....79

When People Steal From Me.....83



CARING/FAIRNESS87

Conflict Resolution89

Empathy95

Something Special About Me99

Understanding People With Special Needs.... 103



PERSEVERANCE 111

Never Give Up 113

Never Lose Sight 121

Overcoming Poor Decisions..... 125



SELF-DISCIPLINE 129

Anger/Conflict Management131

Building My Self-Confidence.....137

Coping With Stress.....141

Developing Good Listening Skills.....145

Self-Awareness149

Setting Goals.....155



COURAGE 161

Accepting Consequences 163

Building My Courage 167

Standing Up for Me..... 169

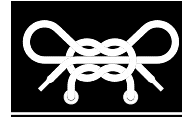
Sticking to What's Right 173



CITIZENSHIP 177

Community 179

What Is Freedom? 187



LIFE SKILLS 191

Clean Air and Water 193

Fire Safety 197

Money Management.....203

Personal Habits for a Lifetime.....207

Places and Maps..... 211

Acknowledgments.....216

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INTRODUCTION

The Learning for Life character education program has been developed to meet the critical needs of our nation's schools and communities. It is designed to support schools and organizations in their efforts to prepare youth to successfully handle the complexities of contemporary society and to enhance their self-confidence, motivation, and self-esteem. Learning for Life will enhance social and life skills, assist in moral and character development, and help youth formulate positive personal values. This program will prepare youth to make ethical decisions that will help them achieve their full potential.

Program Methods

- Learning for Life features grade-appropriate, theme-oriented lesson plans to be used in the classroom to enhance and support the core curriculum.
- Learning for Life incorporates an action-learning process and uses teaching techniques such as role-playing, small-group discussions, reflective and moral dilemma exercises, and hands-on activities.
- Learning for Life suggests that you teach one lesson each week. Lessons are designed to last approximately 45 minutes to an hour. A lesson may offer more activities than time allows. It is at the discretion of the teacher to select which activities to conduct during the time allotted or to decide to continue the lesson at another time.

Family/Home Activity

Every lesson plan in this book has a family/home activity. This is a character-building lesson that the student takes home to do with a parent or guardian. The family/home activity reinforces the lesson that was done in the classroom and gives parents/guardians an opportunity to participate in the character development of their child.

Recognition Plan

Learning for Life offers a recognition plan for youth that will motivate positive behavior, foster a sense of belonging to the group, assist in building self-esteem, and reward a positive work ethic.

See the Classroom Instructions for a breakdown of suggested lesson plan sets with appropriate recognitions.

Instructor Training

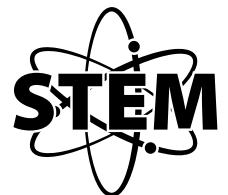
A Learning for Life representative will conduct a brief Learning for Life training course for all teachers, volunteers, and school administrators. For additional information on training, go to www.learningforlife.org.

Good Books Teach Character

On page 5 you will find a list of children's books that reinforce many of the lessons in this book. The list includes books that focus on each of the nine character traits taught through the Learning for Life lessons: Respect, Responsibility, Honesty/Trust, Caring/Fairness, Perseverance, Self-Discipline, Courage, Citizenship, and Life Skills.

STEM Activities

This logo denotes an activity that incorporates STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) disciplines.



Art Activities

This logo denotes an activity that integrates art.



Anti-Bullying Activities

This logo denotes an activity that focuses on avoiding bullying behavior.



CLASSROOM INSTRUCTIONS

Display the Honor Wall chart in a prominent part of your classroom and write students' names on the chart. The honor wall chart (SKU 32140) and stickers (SKU 32136) can be obtained through the local council or by visiting www.learningforlife.org.

As you complete a set of lessons, affix one sticker by each student's name and put one on the student's clothing. There are 15 different recognition stickers. You'll notice that there is a difference in the number of assigned themes and recognition stickers; this is by design to allow the classroom teacher flexibility in selecting which recognition sticker to give. In some instances, three or four lessons may be used in a certain area before one sticker is given.

Following is the suggested breakdown of stickers and lesson plan sets.



SLOGAN: Imagination and discovery are great; learning is fun!

PLEDGE: I promise to help my family, my friends, my school, and my community.

SIGN: Open hand above eyes as if searching.

Recognition Sticker	Lesson Plan Set
Home	Something Special About Me Sticking to What's Right
Getting and Giving Respect	Respecting Differences Trust Me—I Won't Let You Down World Cultures Empathy
Transportation	Places and Maps
Community	Developing Good Listening Skills Community What Is Freedom?
Prepared	Fire Safety Being a Good Worker
Doing the Right Thing	Accepting Consequences Meeting Deadlines Never Give Up Overcoming Poor Decisions
Government	Setting Goals
Decisions	Decision Making Never Lose Sight Socially Responsible Behavior Conflict Resolution Anger/Conflict Management
Family Members	Ethnic Heritage Race, Religion, and Culture
Work	Choices Standing Up for Me Building My Courage
Proud of Myself	Self-Awareness Personal Habits for a Lifetime Building My Self-Confidence Coping With Stress
School	People Who Cheat When People Steal From Me
Health	Understanding People With Special Needs
Math	Money Management
Environment	Clean Air and Water

GOOD BOOKS TEACH CHARACTER

We have compiled this list of books that support character building. They are broken out by the nine character traits categorized in this book.

Before recommending or reading any of these books aloud, we encourage you to carefully review your selection for words or portions of the book that might be considered objectionable to some persons.

Respect

The 18th Emergency, by B. Byars
Aldo Applesauce, by J. Hurwitz
Between Friends, by G. Garrigue
Bicycle Man, by Allen Say
Cassie Binegar, by P. MacLachlan
Crow Boy, by Taro Yashima
Felicia the Critic, by E. Conford
Frindle, by Andrew Clements
Get Lost, Little Brother, by C. Adler
The Glory Girl, by B. Byars
Helen Keller, by Margaret Davidson
Her Father's Garden, by James Vollbracht
I and Sprogy, by C. Greene
The Jungle Book, by Rudyard Kipling
Kids Around the World Celebrate!: The Best Feasts and Festivals From Many Lands, by Lynda Jones
Living in Two Worlds, by Maxine Berta Rosenberg
Magnus Powermouse, by D. King-Smith
Marra's World, by E. Coatsworth
Me and My Little Brain, by J. Fitzgerald
Miranda's Magic Garden, by Linda Atrip
The Pinballs, by B. Byars
Portrait of Ivan, by P. Fox
Rachel Vellars, How Could You? by L. Fisher
Ramona the Brave, by B. Cleary
Renfroe's Christmas, by R. Burch
Somewhere in the World Right Now,
by Stacey Schuett
The Stone-Faced Boy, by P. Fox
Stories From the Blue Road, by E. Crofford
The Velveteen Rabbit, by M. Bianco
Wonder, by R.J. Palacio
Your Former Friend, Matthew, by L. Gaeddert

Responsibility

All Alone, by C. Bishop
Angel In Charge, by Judy Delton
Backyard Angel, by Judy Delton
Bartholomew and the Oobleck, by Dr. Seuss
A Brother for the Orphelines, by N. Carson
Corn Grows Ripe, by D. Rhoads
Crow Boy, by Taro Yashimo
Elliot Fry's Good-Bye, by Larry Dane Brimmer
The Family Under the Bridge, by N. Carlson
The Get-Away Car, by E. Clymer
Horse in the Attic, by E. Clymer
Journey From Peppermint Street, M. DeLong
Keep the Light Burning, Abbie, by Peter and
Connie Roop
The Light at Tern Rock, by J. Sauer
Marvin Redpost: Alone in His Teacher's House,
by L. Sachar
The Moffats, by E. Estes
My Brother Stevie, by E. Clymer
Nessa's Fish, by Nancy Luenn
On My Honor, by Marion D. Bauer
One-Eyed Cat, by P. Fox
Pearl's Promise, by F. Asch
Ricky Sticky Fingers, by Julia Cook
Rufus M., by E. Estes
Shoemaker Martin, by Leo Tolstoy
Shoeshine Girl, by C. Bulla
Stone Fox, by J. Gardiner
The Street of the Flower Boxes, by P. Mann
What a Wimp! by C. Carrick

Honesty/Trust

After the Goat Man, by B. Byars
The Always Prayer Shawl, by Sheldon Oberman
Anne of Green Gables, by Lucy Maude Montgomery
Bernard the Brave, by M. Sharp
The Best Kept Secret of the War, by L. Todd
Call It Courage, by A. Sperry
Call Me Ruth, by M. Sachs
Charlotte's Web, by E.B. White
Courage, Dana, by S. Pfeffer
The Courage of Sarah Noble, by A. Dalglish
Elliot Fry's Good-Bye, by Larry Dane Brimmer
The Gold Coin, by Alma Flor Ada
The Great Brain Reforms, by J. Fitzgerald