

# FIFTH 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 38 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.

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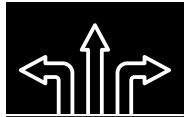
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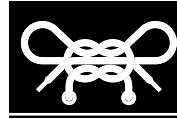
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# INTRODUCTION

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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

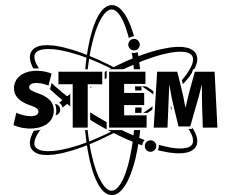
A Learning for Life representative will conduct a brief Learning for Life training course for all teachers, volunteers, and school administrators. For additional information on training, go to [www.learningforlife.org](http://www.learningforlife.org).

## 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

The honor wall chart (SKU 615999) and stickers (SKU 616000) can be obtained through the local council or by visiting [www.learningforlife.org](http://www.learningforlife.org). Display the honor wall chart in a prominent part of your classroom and write students' names on the chart.

As you complete a set of lessons, affix one sticker by each student's name and give one to the student to put on his or her individual honor chart. 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 corresponding lessons.



**PLEDGE:** I will strive to be honest, fair, hardworking, and unselfish, and to treat others as I would like to be treated.

<b>Recognition Sticker</b> <b>Home and Family</b>	<b>Lesson Plan Set</b> Community Something Special About Me Sticking to What's Right
<b>School and Community</b>	Respecting Differences Trust Me—I Won't Let You Down World Cultures
<b>Conservation</b>	Prepared for Today
<b>Communicating With Others</b>	Communication Developing Good Listening Skills Overcoming Poor Decisions
<b>Art and Literature</b>	Classic Literature
<b>Helping Other People</b>	Emergency Preparedness Service
<b>Laws and Government</b>	Setting Goals Exhibiting Responsible Citizenship
<b>Personal Fitness</b>	Code of Ethics Decision Making Never Lose Sight Never Give Up
<b>My Heritage</b>	Ethnic Heritage Race, Religion, and Culture
<b>Personal Enrichment</b>	Coping With Stress Standing Up for Me Accepting Consequences Making Good Decisions Anger/Conflict Management Building My Courage
<b>Self-Awareness</b>	Self-Awareness Personal Habits for a Lifetime How I Learn From My Mistakes Building My Self-Confidence
<b>Respecting Myself and Others</b>	Understanding People With Special Needs People Who Cheat Violence Prevention
<b>Prepared for Life</b>	Health What Is Freedom?
<b>Job Awareness</b>	Money Management
<b>My World</b>	Clean Air and Water

# GOOD BOOKS TEACH CHARACTER

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**W**e 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

*April Morning*, by Howard Fast  
*Boston Tea Party: Rebellion in the Colonies*,  
by James E. Knight  
*The Bully (Bluford High Series #5)*, by Paul Langan  
*Charlie Pippin*, by Candy Dawson Boyd  
*Cougar*, by Helen V. Griffith  
*Crash*, by Jerry Spinelli  
*Dragonbreath*, by Ursula Vernon Cooper  
*Escaping the Giant Wave*, by Peg Kehret  
*Fireflies*, by Julie Brinckloe  
*Frozen Fire: A Tale of Courage*, by James A. Houston  
*Good Morning, Good Night*, by Ivan Gantshev  
*Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* by Carol McCloud  
*I Didn't Know I Was a Bully*,  
by Melissa Crawford Richards  
*Maniac Magee*, by Jerry Spinelli  
*Monkey Island*, by Paula Fox  
*Ms. Rumphius*, by Barbara Cooney  
*The New Girl*, by Meg Cabot  
*Number the Stars*, by Lois Lowry  
*Profiles in Courage*, by John F. Kennedy  
*Randall's Wall*, by Carol Fenner  
*Respect*, by Lucia Raatma  
*Shredderman: Secret Identity*,  
by Wendelin Van Draanen  
*Slake's Limbo*, by Felice Holman  
*Sour Land*, by William H. Armstrong  
*Star Fisher*, by Lawrence Yep  
*Thank You, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*,  
by Eleanora Tate  
*The Whipping Boy*, by Sid Fleishman

## Responsibility

*The Amazing Days of Abby Hayes*, by Anne Mazer  
*Backyard Angel*, by Judy Delton  
*Cabin in the Snow*, by Deborah Hopkinson  
*Common Ground: The Water, Earth, and Air We  
Share*, by Molly Bang  
*Energy Island*, by Allan Drummond  
*The Family Under the Bridge*, by Natalie S. Carlson  
*Heart of a Shepherd*, by Rosanne Parry  
*Henry and the Clubhouse*, by Beverly Cleary  
*The Hunter's Code*, by Jake Maddox  
*Just a Dream*, by Chris Van Allsburg  
*On My Honor*, by Marion D. Bauer  
*Phantom Stallion*, by Terri Farley  
*Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari  
Maathai*, by Claire Nivola  
*Shoeshine Girl*, by Clyde Robert Bulla  
*Slake's Limbo*, by Felice Holman  
*Stone Fox*, by John Gardiner

## Honesty/Trust

*A Day's Work*, by Eve Bunting  
*After the Goat Man*, by Betsy Byars  
*Anne of Green Gables*, by Lucy Maude Montgomery  
*The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, by Celeste M. Messer  
*Call It Courage*, by Armstrong Sperry  
*Charlotte's Web*, by E.B. White  
*The Clan Squirrels: Eye of the Storm*,  
by Abigail Chappell  
*The Courage of Sarah Noble*, by Alice Dalgliesh  
*Devon Delaney Should Totally Know Better*,  
by Lauren Barnholdt  
*Edward Fudwupper Fibbed Big*, by Burke Breathed  
*Fish Face*, by Patricia Reilly Giff  
*Honesty*, by Lucia Raatma  
*Liar, Liar*, by Gary Paulsen  
*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, by C.S. Lewis  
*Maniac Magee*, by Jerry Spinelli  
*Night Journeys*, by Avi  
*Nothing But the Truth*, by Avi  
*Nothing Ever Happens on 90th Street*,  
by Roni Schotter  
*On My Honor*, by Marion D. Bauer  
*Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great*,  
by Judy Blume  
*Profiles in Courage*, by John F. Kennedy