

Character Counts in Your Life - Why?

- ✚ Character affects relationships, actions, attitudes, goals, words, decisions, and the outcomes of life's successes
- ✚ Character is the summation of individual values and can be developed through education and communication
- ✚ Character prepares youth for Oklahoma's Promise of the OHLAP Scholarship (www.okcollegestart.org) by developing the personality traits needed to meet the requirements of making good grades and staying away from serious trouble, drugs and alcohol
- ✚ Character provides workforce preparation because if character, diligence, persistence and commitment are lacking - skill, talent, ingenuity and knowledge are useless
- ✚ "Hire for character and train for skills"-- Michael Josephson, Character Counts
- "The *right* people are your most important asset. Whether someone is the *right person* has more to do with character traits and innate capabilities than with specific knowledge, background, or skills."
----- Jim Collins, author of *Good to Great*
- ✚ Character is the first of the Financial Six C's (followed by capacity to pay, capital, collateral, conditions, and confidence) lenders definitely consider Character when making a loan

Good Character

Good character is more to be praised than outstanding talent

Most talents are to some extent, a gift.

Good character, by contrast, is not given to us.

We have to build it piece by piece – by

Thought, Choice, Courage and Determination.

-- by *John Luther*

The Six Pillars of Character: www.charactercounts.org
Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship

CHARACTER COUNTS IN YOUR LIFE

The Six Pillars of Character

Josephson Institute of Ethics

www.charactercounts.org

Trustworthiness Be honest – Don't deceive, cheat or steal - Be reliable – Do what you say you'll do – Have the courage to do the right thing – Build a good reputation – Be loyal – Stand by your family, friends and country.

Respect Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule – Be tolerant of differences – Use good manners, not bad language – Be considerate of the feelings of others – Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone – Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements.

Responsibility Do what you are supposed to do – Persevere; keep on trying! – Always do your best – Use self-control – Be self-disciplined – Think before you act – Consider the consequences – Be accountable for your choices.

Fairness Play by the rules – Take turns and share – Be open-minded; listen to others – Don't take advantage of others – Don't blame others carelessly.

Caring Be kind – Be compassionate and show you care – Express gratitude – Forgive others – Help people in need.

Citizenship Do your share to make your school and community better – Cooperate – Stay informed; vote – Be a good neighbor – Obey laws and rules – Respect authority – Protect the environment.

T R R F C C – Be Terrific by Having Character !!

National Character Counts Week is the third week in October every year