



## TEACHER'S GUIDE TO ADVENTURES FROM THE BOOK OF VIRTUES "INTEGRITY"

### INTRODUCTION

Adventures From The Book of Virtues offers some of the greatest stories of all time, and reinforces character education in an entertaining, fun way. Adapted from The Book of Virtues, the animated stories illustrate character traits such as honesty, friendship, courage, self-discipline and others. Stories are seen through the eyes of two kids, Zach and Annie, who live in a town called Spring Valley. They deal with the same pressures faced by kids everywhere, but they are able to turn to Plato the Buffalo, who lives in a cave high above Spring Valley. Plato has collected some of the world's great stories and when Annie or Zach are faced with a difficult situation in their own lives, Plato and his pals, Aristotle, Socrates and Aurora, know just the right adventure to offer.

### GOAL: EMPOWERING KIDS

Children love a good story, and many of these stories have been passed down for hundreds or even thousands of years. Why have these stories endured? Quite simply, they present life's most powerful lessons in entertaining, memorable ways which children are able to apply to their own situations.

### GOAL: CHARACTER BUILDING

The stories in this collection reinforce character education: honesty, friendship, perseverance, courage, honor, self-discipline, responsibility, integrity, and work, among others.

*SUGGESTED QUESTIONS will help kids respond to each story.*

*SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES will offer students with specific applications of each character trait.*

### TEACHING OBJECTIVES:

#### Students will do the following:

- a. Review and assess each story including identifying the character trait being presented by the main character.
- b. Identify the key "story theme" presented by Zach or Annie, including the challenges they faced in each episode.
- c. Understand how the same "character trait" shown in the stories can be applied to their own lives.

### RESULTS:

#### Students should:

- d. Know basic character traits.
- e. Understand each of the character traits being presented.
- f. Be able to apply the character traits to their own lives.

## WELCOME TO PLATO'S PEAK!

### SUMMARY, ZACH & ANNIE STORY:

Annie's handmade weathervanes sell like crazy at the school fair. In order to keep up with the demand, she cuts a few corners when building more weathervanes. Later when the weathervanes begin to fall apart, angry customers who want their money back confront Annie. Humiliated, Annie retreats to Plato's Peak where she hears several tales about the concept of "integrity."

### "FOR WANT OF A HORSESHOE NAIL" (English legend)

King Richard III was preparing for battle to determine who would rule England. In making sure his favorite horse was ready, he told the blacksmith to "quickly shoe the horse." But the blacksmith had run out of horseshoes and needed to get more. When he finally began nailing the shoes onto the horse, he found he was short of nails. "Just nail it on as best you can," cried the king's attendant. But it wasn't good enough. When the horse stumbled during the battle, it led to King Richard's defeat.

### "CHARLEMAGNE AND THE ROBBER KNIGHT" (German legend)

King Charlemagne responds to a dream in which he is requested to go out and secretly steal. Charlemagne sneaks out into the night and meets a would-be robber knight named Elbegast. He accompanies Elbegast to the home of one of his own most trusted ministers, Arnot, whom Elbegast has decided to rob. Once inside Arnot's house, Elbegast overhears Arnot's conspiracy plans to overthrow Charlemagne. He abandons his robbery plans and warns Charlemagne of the impending danger. For regaining his integrity as a knight, and for giving up his ways as a robber, Elbegast is rewarded with a place in the Emperor's service.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR KIDS:

1. What did Annie do to make more weathervanes?
2. What was wrong with Annie's approach?
3. What does it mean to have "integrity?"
4. Describe a time when you built something and it was perfect when you finished.
5. Describe a time when you didn't do the best job you could. Next time you are asked to do the same thing, will you do a better job?

### ACTIVITIES:

**ACTIVITY #1:** Have each student make a list of five examples of integrity.

**ACTIVITY #2:** Have students write a paragraph describing an example where someone or something demonstrated integrity.



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INTEGRITY