



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

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:

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

RESULTS:

Students should:

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

WELCOME TO PLATO'S PEAK!

SUMMARY, ZACH & ANNIE STORY:

When Zach discovers that his college football idol is coming to his school, he eagerly volunteers to help out with the preparations. But when he's asked to clean up the auditorium, Zach wants to back out, prompting stories from Aurora and Plato about what it means to be trustworthy.

"THE BEAR AND THE TRAVELERS" (Aesop Fable, Greek)

An old badger longs to travel to distant lands. It is arranged that a young badger named Chauncey would travel with the old badger to keep him from danger. But when a bear comes upon their camp, Chauncey runs off and abandons the old badger, leaving him alone to face a dangerous bear.

"THE KNIGHTS OF THE SILVER SHIELD" (English story)

This is the story of Sir Roland, a young knight who longs to prove he is trustworthy. When the king asks him to guard the castle rather than helping on the field of battle, he is at first disappointed but this is his job and he does not waver from his responsibility, even though he is offered the chance to go out of the castle. Even when the enemy (disguised as a teasing old woman) offers him a magic sword to leave, he stays and guards the castle. When the king finally returns victorious, he proclaims Sir Roland to be trustworthy and Sir Roland wears a star on his shield.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR KIDS:

1. What does it mean to be "trustworthy?" Why is it a good character trait?
2. Why did Zach not want to clean the chairs at the school auditorium?
3. Why did the principal give Zach the job of interviewing his hero, the quarterback?
4. In "The Bear and the Travelers," describe the behavior of the young badger.
5. What could the old badger's daughter have done differently in seeking a travel partner?
6. What did Sir Roland do that was trustworthy?
7. What made Sir Roland stay at his job instead of leaving?
8. What did Sir Roland do to be trustworthy?
9. Which one of these stories did you like best, and why?

ACTIVITIES:

ACTIVITY #1: Have your children draw a picture of the bear in "The Bear and the Travelers."

ACTIVITY #2: Have your students write a paragraph describing one time in their lives where they demonstrated trustworthiness.



PorchLight Home Entertainment
11050 Santa Monica Blvd., 3rd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90025
website: www.porchlight.com
© 2009 PorchLight Entertainment, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



TRUSTWORTHINESS