

Teach Your Child To Be Dependable

Message To Child: *You're growing up. I'm proud that I can depend on you to do your chores.*

Character–Building Parenting and Mentoring Activities

Character–Building Activities have been standardized with core subject areas (indicated after each activity).

1. Tell your child that every family member must help at home. Assign routine jobs. Rotate often. Let your child join in jobs such as clearing the table, feeding pets, folding towels, etc. Explain that family members depend on each other to do their jobs. **(Social Studies)**
2. Reward completed jobs by placing happy faces, stickers, stars, etc. on a calendar. Give lots of verbal praise and encouragement. **(Healthful Living)**
3. Plant a flower or shrub with your child. Explain how to care for plants. Take a series of pictures of your child caring for the plant. Date each photograph and arrange them in order. Assist your child, if needed, in writing in a journal about the care of the plant. Talk about the changes. **(Science & Language Arts)**
4. Teach your child his/her complete name, address, phone number, and to use 911. Practice. Be patient. **(Guidance)**
5. Solve: At Lincoln Elementary School, students must have an ID card to check out books. On Thursday, September 12th, 250 students had their IDs, 25 did not. Write the number in words for the dependable students. **(Math)**

Recommended Book: *Amelia Bedelia*, Peggy Parish

—Dependable—

Being dependable is having someone trust in and count on you to do what you say you will do. We trust people we know we can depend on.

JULY



*Teach Your Students
To Be Dependable*

Teacher Lesson Plan

Character-Building Activities have been standardized with core subject areas (indicated after each activity).

1. Read and discuss *Amelia Bedelia*. Encourage students to predict what will happen. Ask students to tell what jobs they do at home. **(Language Arts)**
2. Select a different student each day to serve as “Helper of the Day.” Prepare a display area with a list of jobs to be done. Photograph the student who will serve as class helper. Post picture. **(Social Studies)**
3. Encourage students to be responsible for personal belongings, books, keeping their areas clean, putting away toys and supplies, etc. Tell students what you expect, follow through, and recognize them when they are dependable. **(Guidance)**
4. Establish a “Do you have everything?” check at the end of the day. Allow students to gather belongings (books, homework, assignments, book bags, papers, coats, lunchboxes, etc.). Assign partners to check each other to determine if everything is ready to take home. **(Guidance)**
5. Use remaining space for teacher suggested activities:



*Teach Your Students
How To Be Dependable*

Additional Recommended Books

Try these additional books that are developmentally appropriate for your grade level. These additional books have been researched and chosen to reinforce the monthly concept.

 *Agapanthus Hum and the Eyeglasses*, Joy Cowley (Puffin Books, 2001).

 *Berenstain Bears and the Blame Game, The*, Stan & Jan Berenstain (Random House, 1997).

 *Garden That We Grew, The*, Joan Holub (Puffin Books, 2001).

 *I Remember Papa*, Helen Ketteman (Puffin Books, 2001).

 *Mountain That Loved a Bird, The*, Alice McLerran (Aladdin, 2000).

Add your own listing of books that you think are developmentally appropriate for this character concept.

