

Interdisciplinary Character Education Instructional Project Integrated with Reading and Writing Skills: Research Project / Party -- A Celebration of Character

This lesson plan could be used at any time, in any class, independently or coordinated with team teachers for interdisciplinary dimensions or co-curricular approaches. It may easily be adapted to meet all skill and grade levels. Variations described at the end of the lesson cycle demonstrate alternatives for limited time or multi-day implementation. In teaming situations, often the research component will be conducted in language arts or social studies and the other activities will be divided among the other core content classes. For example, the research might be assigned in social studies, a written product in language arts, a poster or other visual in art or a computer class, and maybe even a graphic representation of data in math!

Character Education Goal: Students will transfer concepts of good character into concrete examples of behavior and gain familiarity with positive role models.

Learning Objective: In their study of character traits and historical figures or current notables, students will **research**, analyze, identify and describe behaviors that demonstrate good character and **display** what they have learned in a mini-poster advertisement and/or oral presentation and celebrate their effort and new insights in a party or awards ceremony.

Method: Discovery learning in cooperative groups; assessment through graphic and/or oral presentations.



Reading and Writing Skills: research, summarization, main idea, inference, generalization, cause and effect relationships, persuasive presentation, writing for clarity, support of topic thesis and point of view.

Thinking Skills: application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation.

Learning Styles: visual learner, tactile learner, auditory learner, analytical learner, and creative thinkers.



Cooperative Learning: Throughout this activity there are opportunities for cooperative learning groups. Regardless of content, cooperative learning is a strategy for building the skills that are the cornerstones of good character.

The Task:

Each student (or small cooperative group) is responsible for presenting a guest at a party or an awards ceremony. In preparation for the event, students must get to know their guest of honor through research of “guests” documenting accomplishments and life decisions that illustrate the character trait(s) of the month or any traits selected for this character lesson project. To fulfill your content standards, also require information that supports your curricular content.