

# WYOMING CHARACTER



*that's what we're made of*

## What is caring?

According to Webster's on-line dictionary caring means a fond feeling, having or displaying warmth or affection, feeling and exhibiting concern and empathy for others.

Caring is the heart of ethics, and ethical decision-making. It is scarcely possible to be truly ethical and yet unconcerned with the welfare of others. That is because ethics is ultimately about good relations with other people.

It is easier to love "humanity" than to love people.

## Caring in 4-H

*Are You a Caring Person?  
(Take this self-evaluation and decide for yourself.)*

*Answer each question with a true or false.*

*I am sensitive to people's feelings.*

*I treat people with kindness and generosity.*

*I think about how my actions will affect others.*

*I am never deliberately mean or hurtful.*

*I try to help people in need.*

*I think I am/am not a respectful person because: \_\_\_\_\_*

*Always remember: we become caring people by doing caring things.*

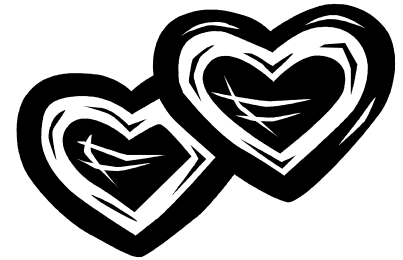
## Character Counts

### Caring

People who consider themselves ethical and yet lack a caring attitude toward individuals tend to treat others as instruments of their will. They rarely feel an obligation to be honest, loyal, fair or respectful except when it benefits them to do so, a tendency which itself hints at fraud and a lack of integrity. A person who really cares feels an emotional response to both the pain and pleasure of others.

The highest form of caring is the honest expression of benevolence, or selflessness.

Adapted from the Josephson Institute, Making Ethical Decisions.



*"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."*

*-Leo Buscaglia*



### Clover Connection

**Head** - use positive words.

**Heart** - show compassion for others.

**Hands** - give service to others, time, money and support.

**Health** - show you care for yourself by making healthy choices.

Like this activity? Find more like it in the "Good Ideas Book" at your local Extension Office