

WYOMING CHARACTER



that's what we're made of

Why Strive to be Trustworthy?

As youth, it feels good when parents, teachers, and leaders know you will meet your obligations, and do not feel like you need constant supervision or monitoring. When others trust you they give you greater leeway. It is satisfying to be held to a high esteem by others, but with that trust comes the need to constantly live up to the expectations and refrain from even small lies or selfish behaviors that will destroy the trust that was built.

Trustworthiness in 4-H

Be a Trustworthy Friend Kit

Make a trustworthy friend kit to remind kids what qualities a friend has. Ask kids to label a zip lock baggie "friendship kit" and decorate it. Have them place the things on the list in the baggie. Cut out the list and place it in the baggie too. Ask the kids to take it home and tell their families what each thing stands for.

Source: Developing Character When it Counts—Grades 2-3, 1999

Tape

Stick up for your Friend

Bandage

Never let a Friend do anything to harm himself or herself

Button

"Button Your Lips" and keep a secret for your friends

Candy Heart

Have the courage to do the right thing

Word Card: Truth

Remember to always speak the truth. Be honest and sincere with your friend

Eraser

Everyone makes mistakes. Forgive a friend's mistakes

Mint

A trustworthy friend is worth a mint

Character Counts Trustworthiness

Simply refraining from deception is not enough. Trustworthiness is the most complicated of the six core ethical values and concerns a variety of qualities like honesty, integrity, reliability and loyalty. It is all of these qualities that build the relationships of trust that foster independence on your part. Striving towards these qualities of trustworthiness, honesty, integrity, reliability, and loyalty, will help you build a reputation that will help you build trusting relationships with those around you.

Adapted from Making Ethical Decisions by Michael Josephson

"A person is not given integrity. It is the result from the relentless pursuit of honesty at all times."

Author Unknown



Clover Connection

Head - speak honestly

Heart - Be loyal

Hands - Be reliable

Health - Trust is essential to build healthy relationships with those around us.

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