

# Character Education Vocabulary

## Caring

### Grade Six

**caring** [feeling concern, showing interest]

**exemplified** [served as an example of]

**neglected** [passed over]

**philanthropy** [giving time, talent, or treasure or taking action for the common good]

**selflessness** [putting others' needs before one's own]

### Grade Seven

**enlightened self-interest** [sacrificing time and resources to the benefit of the whole, which, in turn, benefits self; what is good for the community is good for me]

**gratitude** [thankfulness]

**philanthropic passion** [causes or social issues one cares enough about to take action for]

**philanthropists** [people who give their time, talent, or treasure and take action for the common good]

**pro-social behavior** [acting in ways that benefit others]

**serial reciprocity** [when one person gives to another, by means of time, talent or treasure, and causes a continual chain of giving to occur in a linear pattern]

### Grade Eight

**altruism** [selfless concern for the welfare of others]

**enlightened self-interest** [sacrificing time and resources to the benefit of the whole, which, in turn, benefits self; what is good for the community is good for me]

**empathy**: [identification with and understanding of the feelings of another person]

**selflessness**: [putting others' needs before one's own]

## Courage

### Grade Six

**acrostic** [a poem using the letters of a word as the first letter of each line of the poem]

**courage** [bravery; the ability to confront fear or uncertainty]

**everyday hero** [a not-famous person who uses courage to make a difference for the sake of another]

## Grade Seven

**courage** [bravery; the ability to confront fear or uncertainty]

**persevered** [stuck with it]

## Grade Eight

**courage** [bravery; the ability to confront fear or uncertainty]

**SWOT analysis** [Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats]

## Fairness

### Grade Six

**barriers** [something that gets in the way and separates]

**bias** [personal judgment; a way we think about things that is formed by our experience]

**compromise** [to come to agreement with both sides giving a little]

**conflict** [a competitive action between two people of different viewpoints]

**equal** [same amount or number as another]

**fairness** [just and equitable manner]

**favoritism** [showing special treatment]

**global** [involving the entire world]

**impartiality** [treating equal people equally]

**intolerance** [unwilling to allow another point of view]

**issues** [a matter in dispute]

**judgment** [an opinion]

**open-minded** [willing to listen to opposing side]

**partial** [favoring one over another]

**perspective** [point of view]

**prejudice** [a judgment formed about a person or group without enough knowledge]

**privilege** [a right granted as a benefit]

**progress** [amount of forward movement]

**resolution** [conflict is answered or solved]

**reward** [something given in return for a desired behavior]

### Grade Seven

**boycott** [refusal to have dealings until acceptable practices are enforced]

**Civil Rights Movement** [actions taken between 1955 and 1968 to outlaw racial discrimination]

**compromise** [to come to agreement with both sides giving a little]

**conscience** [a feeling of obligation to do what is good and right]

**cultivate** [prepare for growing, as in a garden]

**equal** [same amount or number as another]

**expediency** [practical; suitable for the situation]

**fairness** [just and equitable manner]

**favoritism** [showing special treatment]

**inequitable** [unfair, not equal]

**judgment** [an opinion]

**philanthropy** [giving time, talent, and/or treasure or taking action for the common good]

**politic** [wise and tactful for making a decision]

**prejudice** [a judgment formed about a person or group without enough knowledge]

**segregation** [separation of a group for different treatment]

**unconstitutional** [not adhering to the rights guaranteed in the Constitution]

**vanity** [excessive focus on self and one's appearance]

## Grade Eight

**artisan** [a skilled manual laborer who makes products that are functional and/or decorative]

**common good** [promoting the welfare of the community; for the benefit of all]

**copyright** [exclusive legal right to reproduce, publish, sell, or distribute the matter and form of something]

**developing countries** [countries with low levels of material well-being]

**equitable** [equal treatment of all concerned]

**fair** [achieving a proper balance of conflicting interests; a fair decision]

**fairness** [just and equitable manner]

**fair trade** [an organized movement that helps producers in developing countries get better trading conditions]

**fair use** [a legal doctrine that allows, with restrictions, portions of copyrighted materials to be used without permission of the copyright owner]

**global** [involving the entire world]

**justice** [exact following of a standard of what is right and proper; a just settlement of territorial claims]

**metaphor** [comparing two unlike objects to enhance meaning, as in "clouds are like cotton candy"]

**producers** [workers creating a product; farmers, workers, and artists]

**retail stores** [stores that sell directly to consumers]

## Honesty

### Grade Six

**civic virtue** [positive behavior that supports group well-being]

**honesty** [fairness and straightforwardness in conduct]

**ironic** [opposite to apparent meaning; used to emphasize a point]

### Grade Seven

**common good** [promoting the welfare of the community; for the benefit of all]

**ethical decision-making** [using a set of morals/values when problem-solving]

### Grade Eight

**eschew obfuscation** [avoid purposely concealing the meaning of the communication]

**fabrication** [something that is made up or created]

**honesty** [fairness and straightforwardness in conduct]

**omission** [something left out]

**responsibility** [following tasks to completion and being dependable for doing what you say you will do]

**sarcasm** [ironic wit intended to cut down or point out inconsistency]

## Integrity

### Grade Six

**apartheid** [a policy of segregation and political and economic discrimination against those of non-European backgrounds]

**integrity** [knowing and doing what's right; true to yourself and others]

**principles** [code of conduct]

**values** [what is believed to be right; the basis for ethical action]

### Grade Seven

**colonial government** [governing body run by the local colony, not the sovereign power; that is, Virginia's government, not England's]

**colony** [a group of people living in a new territory with ties to the parent country, i.e., Virginia before the Declaration of Independence]

**imperial authority** [governed by the king of England]

**integrity** [knowing and doing what's right; true to yourself and others]

**obstacles** [something that gets in the way and blocks advancement]

**parson** [minister of the Anglican church]

**overruled** [set aside; didn't enforce the judgment]

**resolutions** [formal statements of intent voted on by a political body]

### Grade Eight

**abolitionist** [anti-slavery activist]

**integrity** [knowing and doing what's right; true to yourself and others]

**philanthropy** [giving time, talent, or treasure or taking action for the common good]

**suffrage** [right to vote]

## Perseverance

### Grade Six

**boycott** [refusal to have dealings until acceptable practices are enforced]

**buyer's remorse** [regretting a purchase after the fact]

**Civil Rights Movement** [actions taken between 1955 and 1968 to outlaw racial discrimination]

**goal** [the end point to which efforts are directed]

**impulse spending** [buying without considering the benefits and consequences]

**incentives** [perceived benefits and costs that we consider when making any economic decision]

**legacy** [something passed on from the past]

**long-term goals** [plans for doing something in more than three year's time]

**opportunity cost** [what option you give up when you act on a decision]

**perseverance** [to persist, even in the face of discouragement; putting forth maximum effort to always do the best you can]

**resolutions** [firm decisions to act on a specific goal]

**short-term goals** [plans for doing something in less than a year's time]

### Grade Seven

**barriers** [something that gets in the way and separates]

**goal** [the end point to which efforts are directed]

**obstacles** [something that gets in the way and blocks advancement]

**perseverance** [to persist, even in the face of discouragement; putting forth maximum effort to always do the best you can]

**persistence** [continuing without change for a long period]

**personal best** [your best effort based on your ability and opportunity]

### Grade Eight

**excuse** [a reason not to do something]

**perseverance** [to persist, even in the face of discouragement; putting forth maximum effort to always do the best you can]

**obstacles** [something that gets in the way and blocks advancement]

## Respect

### Grade Six

**antidotes** [a remedy that counteracts]

**bias** [personal judgment; a way we think about things that is formed by our experience]

**prejudice** [a judgment formed about a person or group without enough knowledge]

**respect** [showing regard or esteem for]

**sarcastic** [ironic wit intended to cut down or point out inconsistency]

**self-respect** [respect applied to one's self]

**stereotype** [an oversimplified opinion formed by associating people with a group]

**racism** [belief that racial differences determine superiority]

### Grade Seven

**feasible** [capable to carry out]

**implement** [carry out]

**respect** [showing regard or esteem for]

### Grade Eight

**bias** [personal judgment; a way we think about things that is formed by our experience]

**discrimination** [action or treatment based on prejudice, or a preconceived opinion]

**diversity** [variety; including people of different cultures or races]

**exclusion** [the act of leaving out]

**inclusion** [the act of welcoming in]

**minorities** [a part of a population that is different from others in some way]  
**pluralism** [a society in which diverse people participate]  
**prejudice** [a judgment formed about a person or group without enough knowledge]  
**racism** [belief that racial differences determine superiority]  
**sensitivity** [awareness of the needs of others]  
**stereotype** [an oversimplified opinion formed by associating people with a group]  
**tolerance** [openness and acceptance of different views]

## Responsibility

### Grade Six

**assumed** [taken upon oneself without needing to be told]  
**cholera** [disease caused by bacteria in the intestines, usually from polluted water]  
**responsibility** [following tasks to completion and being dependable for doing what you say you will do]

### Grade Seven

**civic responsibility** [a sense of responsibility toward the community]  
**common good** [promoting the welfare of the community; for the benefit of all]  
**consequences** [conclusions following specific actions]  
**dependability** [reliability; can be counted on to follow through]  
**determination** [commitment to get it done]  
**nepotism** [favoritism shown to relatives]  
**perspective** [viewpoint]  
**responsibility** [following tasks to completion and being dependable for doing what you say you will do]  
**values** [what is believed to be right; the basis for ethical action]

### Grade Eight

**character** [the ethical traits of a person]  
**civic responsibility** [a sense of responsibility toward the community]  
**common good** [promoting the welfare of the community; for the benefit of all]  
**consequences** [conclusions following specific actions]  
**debate** [formal structure for arguing two sides of an issue]  
**dependability** [reliability; can be counted on to follow through]  
**Emancipation Proclamation** [document declaring freedom of slaves]

**perspective** [viewpoint]

**solidarity** [unity]

**responsibility** [following tasks to completion and being dependable for doing what you say you will do]

**Union** [the states joined into one body of shared government]

## Self-Discipline

### Grade Six

**discipline** [training to act according to rules]

**perseverance** [the ability to continue with a task or plan, even when you want to quit]

**self-control** [restraint of oneself or one's actions, such as managing anger]

**self-motivation** [will power or initiative to begin or continue a task or activity without prodding or supervision, such as physical training]

**will power** [the ability to begin or continue on a plan or course of action]

### Grade Seven

**apprentice** [somebody trained by a skilled professional]

**commitment** [determination to get something done, or to a person]

**common good** [promoting the welfare of the community; for the benefit of all]

**delayed gratification** [to put off immediate reward to pursue a longer term goal]

**discipline** [training to act according to rules]

**goal** [the end point to which efforts are directed]

**impulse control** [the ability to think before acting]

**integrity** [knowing and doing what's right; true to yourself and others]

**maturity** [being fully developed in body and mind, adult]

**perseverance** [to persist, even in the face of discouragement; putting forth maximum effort to always do the best you can]

**patience** [ability or willingness to suppress restlessness or annoyance when confronted with delay]

**self-control** [restraint of oneself or one's actions, ie. anger]

**self-denial** [restraining one's own wants or desires]

**self-discipline** [acting according to how you think rather than how you feel in the moment]

**self-motivation** [ability to start or continue a task or activity without another's prodding or supervision]

**self-talk** [anything said to oneself for encouragement or motivation; a person's internal mental conversations]

**willpower** [the ability to begin or continue on a plan or course of action]

## Grade Eight

**commitment** [determination to get something done; loyalty to a person or thing]

**delayed gratification** [to put off immediate reward to pursue a longer term goal]

**discipline** [training to act according to rules]

**goal** [the end point to which efforts are directed]

**impulse control** [the ability to think before acting]

**integrity** [knowing and doing what's right; true to yourself and others]

**patience** [ability or willingness to suppress restlessness or annoyance when confronted with delay]

**perseverance** [to persist, even in the face of discouragement; putting forth maximum effort to always do the best you can]

**persistence** [continuing without change for a long period]

**philanthropist** [a person who gives their time, talent and/or treasure for the common good].

**self-control** [restraint of oneself or one's actions, such as managing anger]

**self-denial** [restraining one's own wants or desires]

**self-discipline** [acting according to how you think rather than how you feel in the moment]

**self-motivation** [ability to start or continue a task or activity without another's prodding or supervision]

**self-talk** [anything said to oneself for encouragement or motivation; a person's internal mental conversations]

**willpower** [the ability to begin or continue on a plan or course of action]

## Trustworthiness

### Grade Six

**acrostic** [a poem structured by a word written vertically; each line begins with one of the letters of the original word]

**empathy** [identification with and understanding of the feelings of another person]

**misunderstanding** [a failure to understand]

**promise** [a statement of commitment to do or not do something specific]

**social capital** [like a bank account of positive feelings invested with others]

**trust capital** [many positive experiences with a friend (like doing what you say you'll do) build trust over time and cannot easily be undermined]

**trustworthiness** [dependability; keeping a promise, or doing what you say you'll do]

### Grade Seven

**character** [the ethical traits of a person]

**honesty** [fairness and straightforwardness in conduct]

**loyalty** [supports with faithfulness a person or cause]

**metaphor** or **simile** [comparing two unlike objects to enhance meaning, as in "clouds are like cotton candy"]

**reputation** [a good name; a quality of character as judged by other people in general]

**trustworthiness** [dependability; keeping a promise, or doing what you say you'll do]

### Grade Eight

**advocacy** [to write or speak or act in favor of a person or ideal]

**bias** [personal judgment; a way we think about things that is formed by our experience]

**charitable** [related to giving to the needy]

**community** [a group with common interests and likes, or a group of people living in the same area with shared resources]

**endorsement** [public support for]

**exploitation** [making use of something for your own advantage]

**honesty** [fairness and straightforwardness in conduct]

**judgment** [an opinion]

**loyalty** [supports with faithfulness a person or cause]

**misunderstanding** [a failure to understand]

**philanthropic** [giving for the common good]

**philanthropy** [giving time, talent, and/or treasure or taking action for the common good]

**reliable** [dependable]

**reputation** [a good name; a quality of character as judged by other people in general]

**trustworthiness** [dependability; keeping a promise, or doing what you say you'll do]