



Shared Values Survey

Let's make working together a great experience. Demonstrating positive character helps create great places to work and learn. Our character is defined by how people describe us. The character traits listed (alphabetically) below have been suggested as useful goals to promote positive group experiences. What do you think? By yourself, please circle three character traits you believe are important for a group to work well together. If you come up with traits that are not listed, please write them down.

Caring/ Kindness

Generosity

Cheerfulness

Honesty

Citizenship/ Courtesy

Initiative

Confidence/Optimism

Love

Cooperation/Helpfulness

Loyalty

Courage

Patience

Dependability/Reliability

Respect

Diligence/Perseverance

Responsibility/Self-Control

Fairness

Tolerance

Others _____



Shared Values Survey (facilitator Copy)

Objective: Students will learn the character traits and the values that they believe are important and on which they all agree. Students will create a common shared vocabulary that they will use throughout the year.

Materials: Each student needs a copy of *Shared Values Survey*.

Time: 5 minutes for activity; 10 minutes for reflection.

Grade Level: 1-12 (vocabulary may need to be adjusted for younger students.)

Activity:

1. Begin activity by explaining to students that one of the most important parts of working together is to create a positive team. Remind them that a team may be two people working together or it may be the entire class or club. Explain to them that agreeing on a common set of behaviors that we want to display will help all aspects of classroom or club day.
2. Hand out the *Shared Values Survey* to each student. Explain to them that they will work individually to circle the top 3-5 character traits that they think are important to work and live by.
3. Review the definition of each character trait to ensure that all students understand the vocabulary.
4. Give students 5 minutes to complete the activity sheet. Remind them to work alone.
5. After all students have completed the activity sheet and have circled their top 3-5 important values come together in a group to reflect.
6. Ask for a volunteer to write the answers on the board or flip chart paper. Go through the list trait by trait and ask for a show of hands for each trait picked. For example, “let’s begin with caring/kindness. Raise your hand if you picked caring/kindness as one of the most important values.” Count up the number of hands raised and have the recorder write the number next to the word. Continue this until all character traits have been completed.
8. By the end of the survey, you should be able to identify the top 3-5 character traits or values for the entire class. These values can now become the basis for a class constitution, rules, or teamwork guidelines.
9. You may want to continue this activity with a brainstorming session as to what these character traits or values “look” like in action (ie. how do we show respect?)