Integrity Handbook

This project focuses on integrity through honesty and perseverance. Students are a valuable part of the classroom team and their honesty and perseverance enables it to run smoothly. To highlight their value and demonstrate various ways to show integrity in the school, the class will create an Integrity Handbook for use throughout the school year.

Integrity Sub-Concept(s)
Perseverance, Kindness

Project Timeframe
25-30 minutes

Required Materials
- Integrity Handbook pages (see attached)

To help students brainstorm ideas for the handbook, create a bubble map on a large piece of paper or whiteboard. In the center write SCHOOL in a bubble.

How can we show integrity at school? Remember, integrity is doing what you know is right and kind, even when other people aren’t around. Let’s take some time to brainstorm ways we do this throughout our school!

- Write all of the answers down on the paper or board around the center bubble. Draw lines to connect the ideas back to the center bubble. If kids give suggestions that apply more to home, write those off to the side so you can talk about them later. Remind the students that the goal of integrity is to act in ways you know to be right and kind in all situations. If ideas come up that do not apply to integrity, ask follow up questions. How will this show others at school that I am doing what I know to be right and kind? Encourage age appropriate and safe answers.

Explain that the class will be creating an Integrity Handbook for our classroom library. Each person in our class will identify one way they can show integrity in our school through pictures and words, and they can use our bubble map to help. Since this will be in our library for the rest of the year, we want to take extra special pride in our work today. Every book made is done with pride so it will last. Let’s treat our book with that same level of pride!

Students will finish the sentence starter, “I can show integrity by...,” using pictures and written text. Dictation can also be used as needed for diverse learners.

- Read the sentence starter aloud to each student as you dismiss them to complete their Integrity Handbook page. This will keep the idea fresh in their minds.
- As students finish their pictures, have them write their answers on the lines provided. If you are using dictation, write down exactly what they say below their picture. This writing can also serve as a writing sample for the first quarter if needed.
- When students are finished, have them convene at the carpet/circle time area.
The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has been reviewing evidence-based SEL programs since 2003. Kindness in the Classroom® meets CASEL's SELect Program and is included in the CASEL Guide to Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs.

Kindness in the Classroom® met or exceeded all of CASEL's criteria for high-quality SEL programming. Kindness in the Classroom® received CASEL's highest designation for high-quality SEL programming.

https://casel.org/guide/kindness-in-the-classroom/
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