



Responsibility

Sub-Concepts Covered: Self-discipline, Kindness

Kindness in the Classroom lessons teach kindness skills through a step-by step framework of Inspire, Empower, Act, Reflect and Share. Each lesson starts with the ‘share’ step to reinforce learning from previous lessons. The ‘act’ piece is woven into the lessons but really takes place in the projects.

The Responsibility Unit gives students the opportunity to evaluate responsibility through the lens of personal and social responsibility and decision making. Students will determine what they are responsible for and how their choosing to be responsible can make a positive difference for others. They will also explore how pop culture, particularly in the media, impacts their ability to make responsible choices.

Unit Objective

Students will:

- Analyze the role of self-discipline in responsible decision making.
- Identify what influences responsible decision making.
- Determine appropriate and responsible reactions to various situations.
- Evaluate the media’s impact on emotions and responsible decision making.

Student Introduction

Welcome to the Responsibility Unit! In this unit you will explore how to make responsible decisions and investigate what influences your ability to make responsible choices - particularly how popular culture and the media influence you! Remember that you have the power every day to make responsible choices and to use self-discipline to do what is required or expected of you. Making these good choices not only make things better for you, but also make things better for others. Choosing responsibility and kindness is always the way to go!

- Responsibility and self-discipline
- Influences on decision making
- How media influences our ability to be responsible
- How responsible decisions positively impact others

Let’s get started with our first lesson!

Unit Lessons

Lesson Title	Lesson Objectives	Materials Required
Lesson 1 What Are You Responsible For?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Analyze the role of self-discipline in responsible decision making.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Poster-sized paperMarkers, crayons, other art supplies for poster makingYou could Google and project or print some clever marathon signs that are age-appropriate for inspiration.
Lesson 2 Our Greatest Influences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Define influence.Identify what influences responsible decision making.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Signs with the following words: Friends/Peers, Parents/Guardians, Brothers and Sisters, Relatives (cousins, aunt/uncles, grandparents, etc), Teachers, Mentor/Other Adult, Media (TV, movies, music), Me; post signs around the room before the activity.
Lesson 3 What is my Respons(ibility)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Think about how to positively influence others.Determine appropriate responses to various situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">“What is my Respons(ibility)” worksheet (see lesson)
Lesson 4 Media Influence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Evaluate the media’s impact on emotions and responsible decision making.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Media and Emotions worksheetWhiteboard or some kind of projector to project the clips for the class to see; iPads or other handheld devices would be good, too.For teachers: Article: Impact of Media Use on Children and Youth http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2792691/pdf/pch08301.pdf

Unit Projects

Project Title	Project Overview	Materials Required
Project 1 Tag, You're It!	This project gives students an opportunity to "catch" others making responsible decisions and "tag" them. The project begins with just 5th graders in the class finishing the Responsibility Unit together, but then expands to include other kids (or even teachers/staff) in the school!	<input type="checkbox"/> Tag cut-outs (see project)
Project 2 Egg Baby Responsibility Project	For this project, students will assume the responsibility of caring for an "egg baby" for 48 hours (2 days). The aim is for students to write down their experiences, track the egg's "activity," secure "egg care" for their eggs if they cannot watch or care for the egg, and to ultimately bring the eggs back in perfect condition. The ultimate goal is to give students an opportunity to practice concrete responsibility skills in being gentle, aware, thoughtful, and prepared.	<input type="checkbox"/> Egg Baby Activity Log Sheet (see attached)