



Principles of Good Character

# Responsibility

Grades K-12



## How to be trustworthy:

- Be reliable and dependable. When you agree to do something, do it.
- Take care of your own business. Don't make others do what you supposed to do.
- Take responsibility for your actions. Don't make excuses or blame others.
- Use your head! Think before you act and imagine the consequences of your words and/or actions.

## Think about what it means to be responsible.

1. Do you consider yourself to be a responsible person? Why? In what ways?
2. Does it matter to you whether or not people think of you as responsible? Why, or why not?
3. How do you feel about people who are irresponsible? How do you feel about people who are responsible? What difference does it make to you whether or not your friends are responsible people?
4. How can acting irresponsibly hurt people's friendships? How can being responsible make you a better friend?

## Responsibility Activity:

With your family, role-play a situation where someone acts irresponsibly. Then act out the same situation where someone acts responsibly. How did you feel after each one?

## Jimmy Stewart Challenge:

Watch Jimmy Stewart in "It's a Wonderful Life." As you enjoy the movie, make a list with your family of the responsible ways his character acted. How would you behave differently? Talk with your family about the mistakes he made.