

A Monument to Value

Overview:

Students discuss traits related to trustworthiness and suggest images that represent this value. They build a monument to trustworthiness to reinforce the lesson.

Materials:

- Photo of at least one famous monument
- Paper and pencils or pens
- Drawing paper, markers, crayons
- Building materials: scissors, glue, clay, straws, Popsicle sticks, etc. (optional)

Procedure:

1. Present a picture of a famous monument (e.g., Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial). Discuss what it represents. Offer information and explain the history of the monument. Discuss why it was built and why monuments are constructed.
2. Discuss trustworthiness and these four components: honesty, promise-keeping, integrity, and loyalty. List them on the board. Ask: What kind of people, animals, or images could represent trustworthiness? Why? List their ideas on the board.
3. Divide students into groups. Say: *Now that we've discussed trustworthiness, you're going to build a monument to celebrate and honor it.*
4. Encourage them to be creative. Remind them of the four components. Suggest that the monument could be an animal, person, or object.
5. Distribute building materials (or drawing paper and crayons). Tell them to design and construct (or draw) an image that represents trustworthiness. Tell them they will present their monument of trustworthiness to the class and explain what aspect of the value their image represents.

This lesson is from *Good Ideas*, available for purchase from the CHARACTER COUNTS! online store.

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McREL standards

Arts

Standard 4. Understands the visual arts in relation to history and cultures.

Level III, Benchmark 2. Understands the historical and cultural contexts of a variety of art objects.