

Cara- what?

Overview:

One popular product is our Pillar Carabiner. An easy and reliable gadget to keep keys safe and in one place, our carabiner has the same gate mechanism as the heavy-duty ones used for mountain climbing and ropes safety. While ours are definitely not designed for mountain climbing, this lesson plan explores the mountaineering origins of carabiners and the Pillar of Responsibility.

Materials:

- Actual carabiners or pictures of carabiners
- Reading Comprehension worksheet

Handouts:

- [Reading Comprehension Worksheet](#)

Procedure:

1. You can purchase our Pillar carabiners, or find another carabiner key ring to bring to the class, or use a magazine picture. Show the metal part only and ask the class if they know what it is. You can have them brainstorm ideas (you're looking for the name, carabiner), or you can play hangman and have them do some work with letters.
2. Once the name carabiner is on the board, ask the class if they know what they were originally used for. Tell them that it is something that involves all of the Pillars of Character.
3. Once they know the carabiner was designed for mountain climbing, distribute the reading comprehension worksheet and ask them to read through the information and respond to the questions.
4. Once everyone has finished, ask them to think of what Pillars mountaineering falls under. Talk about the different stages in preparation and in working with others. Ask how the Pillar carabiner might help them to remember their responsibilities.
5. Brainstorm what responsibilities they have and share techniques others use for remembering responsibilities. Examples might include: writing it down, sending themselves text messages, carrying something to remind them such as a small stone, or other item, etc.

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McREL standards

Language Arts

Standard 5. Uses the general skills and strategies of the reading process

Benchmark 1. Establishes and adjusts purposes for reading (e.g., to understand, interpret, enjoy, solve problems, predict outcomes, answer a specific question, form an opinion, skim for facts; to discover models for own writing)

<http://www.mcrel.org/Standards-benchmarks/>