

Caring Coupons

Overview:

Children name a variety of caring acts that their parents would appreciate. Then they promise to perform some of them by listing the acts on coupons that they present to their parents.

Materials:

- Photocopied and cut-out “caring coupons” (enough for each child to assemble a book of 5-10 coupons)
- Pencils or pens
- Stapler and staples

Handouts:

- [Caring Coupons](#)

Procedure:

1. Ask: Would you like to get your mom or dad a gift that they’ll love — and not have to spend a dime for it? Make a book of “caring coupons” for them. Distribute the sample coupons (already photocopied and cut out) or have the kids make their own book.
2. Tell them to think of caring acts that their parent(s) would appreciate. Have them list these acts on the coupons. For example, they might make a coupon redeemable for one dishwashing job. Or they might commit to keeping the TV or stereo off one morning so their parents can sleep in. And let’s not leave out yard work and extra house-cleaning chores! Even a good hug and kiss will do.
3. When they’ve completed their coupons and stapled them together with a creative cover, suggest that they save their books for a special occasion (e.g., a parent’s birthday, anniversary, Mother’s/ Father’s Day, etc.).

This lesson appears in the *Good Ideas* book, available for purchase in the CHARACTER COUNTS! online store: <http://CharacterCounts.org/materials>

Adapted with permission from the YMCA’s “Character Development Starter Kit” (YMCA of the USA, Chicago, IL).

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McREL standards

Life Skills

Standard 4. Displays affective interpersonal communication skills.

Level IV, Benchmark 2. Exhibits positive character traits toward others including honesty, fairness, dependability, and integrity.

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