

Trustworthiness
Character Education Theme
April/May, 2007

Prepared by Shirley Lukenbill
Librarian, Wooldridge Elementary
slukenbi@austinisd.org

Trustworthiness is:
Being known by others as reliable, dependable, and honest.

Elementary

- Loewen, Nancy. *How Could You? Kids Talk about Trust*. Picture Window Books, c2003
ISBN 140480031X (lib. bdg.) **Nonfiction**. (179)
Uses an advice-column format to define trust and provide examples in daily life.
- Raatma, Lucia. *Honesty*. Bridgestone Books/Capstone Press, 1999, c2000. ISBN 0736803696.
Nonfiction. (179) K-3
Explains the virtue of honesty and how readers can practice it at home, in school, in the community, and with each other.
- Small, Mary. *Being Trustworthy: A Book about Trustworthiness*. Picture Window Books, c2006.
ISBN 1404810544. **Nonfiction**. (179) Grades 2-4.
Explains that earning trust is not always easy but worth the effort, and presents several examples of how to show one's trustworthiness to parents, friends, teachers, and others.
- Thoennes Keller, Kristin. *Honesty*. Capstone Press, c2005. ISBN 0736836810. **Nonfiction**. (179)
Grades 2-4.
Explains what honesty is and why it is important in the home, at school, and in the community.
- Thomas, Pat. *I'm Telling the Truth: A First Look at Honesty*. Barron's, 2006., 29p
ISBN 0764132148. **Nonfiction**. (179) Grades 2-4.
Looks at some of the reasons why people sometimes lie, and stresses the benefits of being honest and telling the truth.

Intermediate and Middle School

- Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *Hitler Youth: Growing up in Hitler's Shadow*. Scholastic, c2005.
ISBN 0439353793. **Nonfiction**. (943.086) Grades 5-8.
A photo-illustrated look at the youth organizations Adolf Hitler founded and used to meet his sociopolitical and military ends. Hitler gained the loyalty, trust, and passion of so many of Germany's young people. The book includes profiles of individual Hitler Youth members as well as young people who opposed the Nazis, such as Hans and Sophie Scholl.
- Bender, Marie. *Honesty Counts*. ABDO Pub., c2003. ISBN 1577658728. **Nonfiction**. (179)
Grades 3-6
Defines honesty as a character trait and discusses how to be honest at home, with friends, at school, and in the community.
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Among the Hidden*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, c1998.
ISBN 0689817002. **Fiction**. Grades 5-8.
In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke

has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. ***Running out of Time***. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, c1995. ISBN 0689800843. **Fiction**. Grades 5-8.
When a diphtheria epidemic hits her 1840 village, thirteen-year-old Jessie discovers it is actually a 1995 tourist site under unseen observation by heartless scientists, and it's up to Jessie to escape the village and save the lives of the dying children.

Lauren, Emily. ***Trustworthiness***. Raintree, c2002. ISBN 0739857827. **Nonfiction**. (179) Grades 3-6.
Examines the concept of trustworthiness and discusses examples of people and situations that demonstrate this virtue.

L'Engle, Madeleine. ***A Wind in the Door***. Methuen, 1975. ISBN 041681090X. **Fiction**. Grades 4-6.
Charles Wallace is known by others to be dependable and honest and his trustworthy sister saves his life.

Nettleton, Pamela Hill. ***Is That True? Kids Talk about Honesty***. Picture Window Books, c2005. ISBN 1404806199. **Nonfiction**. (179) Grades 3-6.
Frank B. Wise, thirteen-year-old advice columnist, helps kids solve their problems with honesty.

Taylor, Mildred D. ***The Land***. P. Fogelman, c2001. ISBN 0803719507. **Fiction**. Grades 6-9.
2002 Coretta Scott King Award.
Paul-Edward, the son of a part-Indian, part-African slave mother and a White plantation owner father, finds himself caught between the two worlds of his parents as he pursues his dream of owning land in the aftermath of the Civil War. Prequel to ***Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry***.

Wallace, Bill. ***Blackwater Swamp***. Holiday House, c1994. ISBN 0823411206. **Fiction**. Grades 3-6.
Ted's trustworthiness is challenged as he spies on a "witch" by the swamp and discovers stolen goods in a friend's garage.

Wilmore, Kathy. ***Muhammad Ali: With a Discussion of Honesty***. Reading Challenge, c2004. ISBN 1592030653. **Nonfiction**. (796.83) Grades 3-6.
A brief biography examining the value of honesty in the life of the legendary boxer who was the first three-time winner of the world heavyweight championship.

High School

Crutcher, Chris. ***The Sledding Hill***. Greenwillow Books, c2005. ISBN 0060502444 (lib. bdg.) **Fiction**.
Billy, recently deceased, keeps an eye on his best friend, fourteen-year-old Eddie, and helps him stand up to a conservative minister and English teacher who is orchestrating a censorship challenge.

Govier, Trudy. ***Dilemmas of Trust***. McGill-Queen's University Press, c1998. ISBN 0773517979. **Nonfiction**. (302)
Explores the profound effect trust and distrust have on relationships and one's sense of self.

Meyer, Stephenie. ***Twilight***. Little, Brown, 2005. ISBN 0316160172. **Fiction**.
When seventeen-year-old Bella leaves Phoenix to live with her father in Forks, Washington, she meets an exquisitely handsome boy at school for whom she feels an overwhelming attraction and who she comes to realize is not wholly human.

Rosoff, Meg. ***How I Live Now***. Wendy Lamb Books, c2004. ISBN 038590908X (lib. bdg.) **Fiction**. **Printz Award Gold Medal**.
To get away from her pregnant stepmother in New York City, fifteen-year-old Daisy goes to

England to stay with her aunt and cousins, with whom she instantly bonds, but soon war breaks out and rips apart the family while devastating the land. The book also deals with Daisy's eating disorder.

Schraff, Anne E. ***A Matter of Trust***. Townsend Press, c2002. ISBN 0944210031. **Fiction.**

Darcy Wills and Brisana Meeks' friendship changed when they got into high school; and when Brisana began making a play for Darcy's boyfriend, Hakeem, Darcy knew she had to stop her.

Walker, Alice. ***The Color Purple***. Sagebrush, 1999. ISBN 080851847X (lib. bdg.) **Fiction.**

Tells the story of two African-American sisters: Nettie, a missionary in Africa, and Celie, a child-wife living in the south, in the medium of their letters to each other.

Wolff, Virginia Euwer. ***Make Lemonade***. Henry Holt, c1993. ISBN 0805022287. **Fiction.**

Fourteen-year-old LaVaughn, trying to earn the money for college, takes a job caring for the two children of Jolly, a single teenage mom, and must find the courage to make the right decision for all of them after Jolly is fired.