

Responsibility Through Chores (Grades 6-12)



Character Education Objective:

- Students will discuss, based their experience, the impact of messes on their lives, minds, and community.

Content Goal

- Students will explore ways to demonstrate responsibility by cleaning and organizing their space.

Language Goal:

- Students will share ideas about ways to clean and organize their lives to demonstrate they are responsible citizens of their school, home, and community.

Purpose:

April showers bring May flowers. Spring cleaning and a transition into the coming months of summer is a great opportunity to help students recognize opportunities to show responsibility by cleaning their home, school, and community.

Students can demonstrate they are responsible by finding places to clean.

Lesson:

Stand next to the image that best represents your level of clean. (5 minutes).

(Picture 1, Picture 2, Picture 3, Picture 4, Picture 5, Picture 6)

- In your bedroom
- In your locker
- In your school
- In your car (HS)
- In your mind

Discuss 1 or 2 with an elbow partner (3 minutes)

- How does clutter and being messy cause problems in people's lives?
- How have you struggled with clutter in your mind, home, locker, and life throughout this year?
- Rate yourself from 1 (low) to 5 (high) on being responsible and caring for the spaces in your life?

Discuss whole group (3 minutes)

- What does it mean to be responsible?
- How can being cluttered or having a messy room/locker/backpack or mind show your level of responsibility?

Productive Group Work (7 minutes)

Students read and discuss the *Psychology of a Messy Room* article.

<https://www.verywellmind.com/psychology-of-a-messy-room-417124>
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- How does disorganization or messy spaces make you feel?

- What does the article say about the psychology of a messy room?
- How can we be more responsible by decluttering/cleaning?
- What is one space you are going to clean this week/month?

Family Connection

- Tech Support
 - Download a Housecleaning APP
 - Create a chore list in COZI or on a shared note or Google Drive document
- Pillar Time
 - Create a chore list as a family and post it in a prominent place
 - Go through any storage items and determine if you have used it in the last year, and donate it if not
 - Pick up garbage in the neighborhood as a family
- Dinner Discussion
 - What does it mean to be responsible in your family?
 - What is one space in your life that needs to be cleaned?
 - How does keeping an area clean and organized show you are responsible?

Learn more about character education.