



"RESPONSIBILITY" IN ACTION

AUGUST 2025

Responsibility is the cornerstone of trust, respect, and success in our communities. It's about being dependable, keeping our commitments, and owning our actions—both the triumphs and the mistakes. Responsibility means doing what's right, even when no one is watching, and understanding how our choices impact others.

This month, Responsibility in Action highlights stories, voices, and examples that inspire us to step up, take initiative, and lead with integrity.

Please note: Hyperlinks are included, where applicable, for easy searching.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FILMS

Finding Dory (2016)
Zootopia (2016)
Toy Story 3 (2010)

BOOKS

What If Everybody Did That? by Ellen Javernick
Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners by Laurie Keller
Those Shoes by Maribeth Boelts

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

FILMS

Remember the Titans (2000)
Stand and Deliver (1988)
Whale Rider (2002)

BOOKS

Front Desk by Kelly Yang
Ghost by Jason Reynolds
Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan

TEDTalks

[What Adults Can Learn from Kids](#) by Adora Svitak

HIGH SCHOOL & ADULTS

FILMS

Just Mercy (2019)
Selma (2014)
Minari (2020)

BOOKS

Becoming by Michelle Obama
Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates
Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner

TEDTalks

[Get Comfortable with Being Uncomfortable](#) by Luvvie Ajayi Jones



"RESPECT" IN ACTION

SEPTEMBER 2025

Respect is treating others the way you want to be treated—by listening, using kind words, and showing care for people, places, and things, and making choices that reflect fairness, responsibility, and integrity.

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BOOKS

"Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" by Carol McCloud
"That Rule Doesn't Apply to Me!" by Julia Cook
"Thank you, Omu" by Oge Mora

FILMS

Inside Out (2015)
Zootopia (2016)
Hair Love (2019)

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

BOOKS

"Wonder" by R.J. Palacio
"Blubber" by Judy Blume
"Out of My Mind" by Sharon Draper

FILMS

Remember the Titans (2000)
Akeelah and the Bee (2006)
A Wrinkle In Time (2018)

HIGH SCHOOL & ADULTS

BOOKS

"To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee
"Respectful Parents, Respectful Kids" by Sura Hart & Victoria Kindle Hodson
"Stamped" by Ibram X. Kendi

FILMS

Dead Poets Society (1989)
Hidden Figures (2016)

TEDTalks

[Stephen Covey's legacy through *The 7 Habits*](#)



"INTEGRITY" IN ACTION

OCTOBER 2025

This month, we celebrate the character trait of Integrity—the commitment to honesty, fairness, and doing what's right, even when no one is watching. Integrity is the foundation of trust. It guides our choices, strengthens our relationships, and inspires others to lead with character.

Living with integrity means standing by your values, keeping your word, and taking responsibility for your actions. It's about consistency between what we say and what we do.

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BOOKS

"The Name Jar" by Yangsook Choi
"The Day You Begin" by Jacqueline Woodson
"Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah" by Laurie Ann Thompson & Sean Qualls

FILMS

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (2019)
Kubo and the Two Strings (2016)
Abominable (2019)

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

BOOKS

"The Crossover" by Kwame Alexander
"Inside Out & Back Again" by Thanh Hà Lai
"Harbor Me" by Jacqueline Woodson

FILMS

Life of Pi (2012)
Whale Rider (2002)
The Karate Kid (2010)

HIGH SCHOOL & ADULTS

BOOKS

"An American Marriage" by Tayari Jones
"The Mountains Sing" by Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai
"The Night Watchman" by Louise Erdrich

FILMS

Erin Brockovich (2000)
The Blind Side (2009)
He Named Me Malala (2015)

TEDTalks

[Bryan Stevenson: We Need to Talk About an Injustice](#)



"PERSEVERANCE" IN ACTION

JANUARY 2026

Perseverance is the determination to keep moving forward despite obstacles, setbacks, or challenges. It means staying committed to your goals, learning from difficulties, and refusing to give up when the journey becomes hard.

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FILMS

Mulan (1998)
Akeelah and the Bee (2006)
Up (2009)

BOOKS

Madelin fin and the library dog by Lisa Papp
Whistle for Willie by Ezra Jack Keats
Rosie Revere, Engineer by Andrea Beaty

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

FILMS

The Karate Kid (1984)
Rudy (1993)
Soul Surfer (2011)

BOOKS

Radiant by Vaunda M. Nelson
Echo Mountain by Lauren Wolk
Thirst by Varsha Bajaj

HIGH SCHOOL & ADULTS

FILMS

Rocky (1976)
The Pursuit of Happiness (2006)
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (2013)

BOOKS

Osu by Sensei Sarhn
7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens by Sean Covey
You've got This By Domonique Bertolucci



"CONFIDENCE" IN ACTION

FEBRUARY 2026

Confidence is believing in yourself, your abilities, and your potential. It means trusting your voice, embracing who you are, and stepping forward with courage—even when facing uncertainty.

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FILMS

Sandlot (1993)
School of Rock (2003)
Turning Red (2017)

BOOKS

Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae Guy
Parker-Rees
The Lion Inside by Rachel Bright
I am Enough by Grace Byers

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

FILMS

School of Rock (2003)
Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse (2018)

BOOKS

Daring to Take Up Space by Daniel Koepke
Star Girl Jenny Spinelli

HIGH SCHOOL & ADULTS

FILMS

October Sky (1999)
The Blind Side (2009)
The Great Debaters (2007)

BOOKS

Daring to Take Up Space by Daniel Koepke
Rich Dad Poor Dad for Teens by Robert T Kiyosaki



"CURIOSITY" IN ACTION

MARCH 2026

This March, we celebrate Curiosity – one of the most powerful forces behind growth, innovation, and connection. Curious people don't just accept the world as it is; they ask why, imagine what could be, and pursue answers with enthusiasm and open minds. Through this month's films, books, and TED Talks, we'll meet individuals whose questions changed everything – and be reminded that the simple act of wondering is where all great things begin.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FILMS

Encanto (2021)
Ratatouille (2007)
The Wild Robot (2024)

BOOKS

"Ada Twist, Scientist" by Andrea Beaty
"What Do You Do With a Problem?" by Kobi Yamada
"The Questioners" series by Andrea Beaty

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

FILMS

Stand and Deliver (1988)
Spare Parts (2015)

BOOKS

"The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl" by Stacy McAnulty
"Brown Girl Dreaming" by Jacqueline Woodson

TEDTalks

"Try Something New for 30 Days" by Matt Cutts
"My Invention That Made Peace with Lions" by Richard Turere

HIGH SCHOOL & ADULTS

FILMS

Contact (1997)
The Theory of Everything (2014)
I Am Not Your Negro (2016)

BOOKS

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot
"Educated" by Tara Westover
"Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" by Yuval Noah Harari

TEDTalks

"The Next Software Revolution: Programming Biological Cells" by Sara-Jane Dunn
"Dare to Disagree" by Margaret Heffernan
"The Puzzle of Motivation" by Dan Pink



"ADAPTABILITY" IN ACTION

APRIL 2026

This month, we explore the character trait of Adaptability — the strength to navigate change with grace and confidence. Life is full of unexpected moments, and adaptability allows us to respond with creativity, resilience, and an open mind.

Through this month's films, books, and TED Talks, we'll discover how individuals turn challenges into opportunities and learn to thrive in ever-changing environments.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FILMS

The Croods (2013)
Soul (2020)
Lilo & Stitch (2002)

BOOKS

"The Name Jar" by Yangsook Choi
"The Most Magnificent Thing" by Ashley Spires
"Each Kindness" by Jacqueline Woodson

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

FILMS

McFarland, USA (2015)
Bend It Like Beckham (2002)
Holes (2003)

BOOKS

Refugee by Alan Gratz
"Inside Out & Back Again" by Thanhha Lai

TEDTalks

"Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance" by Angela Duckworth
"Getting Stuck in the Negatives (and How to Get Unstuck)" by Alison Ledgerwood

HIGH SCHOOL & ADULTS

FILMS

Arrival (2016)
Beasts of the Southern Wild (2012)
The Martian (2015)

BOOKS

"Americanah" by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
"Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy" by Sheryl Sandberg & Adam Grant

TEDTalks

"How to Make Stress Your Friend" by Kelly McGonigal
"Embrace the Shake" by Phil Hansen



"ACCOUNTABILITY" IN ACTION

MAY 2026

This May, we focus on Accountability — taking ownership of your actions, choices, and their impact on others. It means being honest when things go wrong, following through on commitments, and understanding that integrity is built one decision at a time. Through this month's films, books, and TED Talks, we'll explore stories of individuals who chose responsibility over comfort — and discover how that courage to own our choices shapes communities and transforms lives.

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FILMS

Zootopia (2016)
Luca (2021)
A Bug's Life (1998)

BOOKS

"Enemy Pie" by Derek Munson
"The Recess Queen" by Alexis O'Neill
"Those Shoes" by Maribeth Boelts

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

FILMS

Remember the Titans (2000)
Lean on Me (1989)
Freedom Writers (2007)

BOOKS

"Long Way Down" by Jason Reynolds
"The Outsiders" by S.E. Hinton

TEDTalks

"Every Kid Needs a Champion" by Rita Pierson
"Teach Girls Bravery, Not Perfection" by Reshma Saujani

HIGH SCHOOL & ADULTS

FILMS

Just Mercy (2019)
Selma (2014)
Spotlight (2015)

BOOKS

"Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson
"I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" by Maya Angelou

TEDTalks

"What It Takes to Be a Great Leader" by Roselinde Torres
"How to Speak Up for Yourself" by Adam Galinsky



"SERVICE-MINDED" IN ACTION

JUNE 2026

This month, we celebrate the character trait of being Service-Minded—a commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of others. Whether through small acts of kindness or meaningful contributions to the community, a service-minded approach reflects empathy, generosity, and purpose. Through this month's films, books, and TED Talks, we'll be inspired by individuals who lead with heart and demonstrate the power of serving others.

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FILMS

The Ultimate Gift (2006)
The Lorax (2012)
The Revolutionary Optimist (2013)

BOOKS

"Child of Civil Rights Movement" By Paula Y. Shelton
"Brave Irene" by William Steig
"The Paperboy" by Dav Pilkey

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

FILMS

What Rider (2003)
Spy Kids (2001)

BOOKS

The Ballard of Songbirds and Snakes by Suzanne Collins
The Benefits of Being an Octopus by Ann Braden
Enchantress from the Stars by Sylvia Engahl

TEDTalks

"Everyday Leadership" by Drew Dudley

HIGH SCHOOL & ADULTS

FILMS

Braveheart (1995)
If you Build it (2013)
Arrival (2016)

BOOKS

"The Warmth of Other Suns" by Isabel Wilkerson
"Half the Sky" by Nicholas Kristof & Sheryl WuDunn

TEDTalks

"The Way We Think About Charity is Dead Wrong" by Dan Pallotta