



December 2008

# Character Council Educator Quality of the Month Generosity

**Generosity:  
Carefully managing my  
resources so I can freely give to  
those in need.**

## **I will:**

- share what I have with others
- recycle
- not expect anything in return for my generosity
- give of my time and talents
- praise the good I see in others

True generosity is not only giving the things we have, but also giving our time, our talent and our treasure. The activities this month will focus on being generous in these three ways. You may even find it addicting!

☺ **Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody** Start this month's activities with the following story:

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have. (Author Unknown)

- ☺ **Give time:** Discuss what it means to 'give time' with your students. These activities should only require that you spend time with someone. This could be reading to a younger sibling or playing cards with an aging relative. The focus should be on spending time WITH someone. This is not the time for doing chores for someone. For one of the weeks of this month challenge your students to find ways to give of themselves by spending time with another person.
- ☺ **Give talent:** Discuss what it means to 'give talent' with your students. These activities should focus on doing a task or chore for someone or for a group. It could be volunteering for a church or community activity or it could be doing something for a family member or neighbor. For one of the weeks of this month challenge your students to find ways to give of themselves by performing a job that benefits someone else.
- ☺ **Give treasure:** Discuss what it means to 'give treasure' with your students. It doesn't always have to mean money. These activities should focus on the giving of something. You can organize a drive to collect a specific item such as loaves of bread or new or used but usable mittens or socks and donate them to a local shelter. (It is much easier to coordinate a drive for specific item than it is to run a food or clothing drive.) If your school already has a clothing, food, or toy drive in place, beef up that activity by having students write short notes to the people that will receive the items and attach the notes to the items. Once the items are collected, pick out a few to use as an example. Have the students imagine the people that their things will go to, and how happy these people will be to receive them. Create a fictitious character and a story about the items. How does it feel to give to those who are not as lucky as you? What will you do the next time you notice someone in need?

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