

Seminole Science
Charter School
Character Education Program
2023 – 2024



We are Stingrays! Stingrays support each other,
contribute to our community, and strive for
excellence in all we do!

Introduction

Seminole Science Charter School is committed to the encouragement of intellectual, emotional, physical, and social growth of our student population. Character development is implemented daily in our classrooms. This helps directly with the improvement of academic performance, as well as decrease in undesirable behavior. SSCS wants to continue reinforcing this learning process that enables students in our school and community to understand, care about, and act on our core ethical values.

Goals

1. Students understand that good character consists of attributes reflecting positive moral values, strengths, habits, and behavior. They know that their character (who they are inside, even when others are not looking,) will define them, shape their reputation, and determine how they are likely to act.
2. Students understand that their character is a product of their values and choices.
3. Students accept and demonstrate personal responsibility to create and improve their character by truthful efforts to strengthen their commitment and adherence to ethical values and principles.

Character Strength of the Month:

Teachers include the "Character Strength of the Month" into their curriculum. Stories are read to the students reflecting the traits value of the month. Some related activities are provided for the teachers. Members of the community are invited to the school to read books addressing the value of the month. Students work together with their reading buddies monthly to enforce character strengths.

Students earn commendation points and are eligible to spend their points in the Stingray Store at the end of every quarter to earn a variety of prizes, including extra snacks, dress down passes, and lunch bunches.

Star Students of the Month are chosen from students exhibiting the Character Strength of the Month. Those students are recognized at the end of each month.

September

Open-Mindedness: Being able to consider the thoughts and beliefs of others as well as their own.

A person may show that they're open minded by the following examples:

- Listening more than they talk.
- Taking the time to consider the responses of others.
- Considering things from others points of view (ability to 'walk in other's shoes.')
- Researching further information from reputable sources.
- Questioning their own thoughts and beliefs (ask "*Is it true?*", "*How can I be sure it's true?*")
- Not having to have the last word in a conversation or argument.
- Be open and willing to change their opinion, thought, or belief after doing the above.

October

Humility: The ability to view yourself accurately as an individual with talents as well as flaws while being void of arrogance and low self-esteem.

A person may show humility by the following examples:

- Having the self-esteem to understand that even though you are doing well, you do not have to brag or gloat about it.
- Consider others' beliefs and opinions.
- Be happy for others and their accomplishments.
- Not being consumed by jealousy or self-pity.
- Acknowledge ways in which you can improve oneself.

November/December

Gratitude: Being thankful and appreciative for something or someone in your life and responding with feelings of kindness, warmth, and other forms of generosity.

A person may show gratitude by the following examples:

- Spending a few moments thinking about the things in your life that you are grateful for.
- Stopping to observe and acknowledge the beauty and wonder of something you encounter in your daily life.
- Being thankful for your health.
- Thanking someone for the positive influence they have in your life.
- Doing something kind for another person to show that you are grateful.
- Paying attention to the small things in your life that bring you joy and peace.
- Focusing on giving thanks.

January

Initiative: The ability to assess and do things independently without being directed by others.

A person may show initiative by the following examples:

- Be proactive and seek opportunities or solutions before being asked.
- Offer assistance to someone before they ask.
- Volunteer to participate.
- Problem solve with creative, out-of-the-box thinking.
- Involve yourself in classroom discussions.
- Join clubs, teams, or outside organizations.
- Ask questions! Don't be afraid to make a mistake!

February

Generosity: Voluntary, unselfish giving of time, attention, or other resources.

A person may show generosity by the following examples:

- Sharing resources with others.
- Finding time to mentor those who may need it.
- Make time to listen to a friend who may be struggling.
- Make a commitment and see it through to the end.
- Act in times of emergency.
- Help those most in need.

March

Self-Regulation: The ability to control your behavior and manage your thoughts and emotions in appropriate ways.

A person may show self-regulation by the following examples:

- Coping with intense emotions like frustration, disappointment, or embarrassment.
- Being able to calm down after something exciting has happened.
- Refocusing attention after finishing one task and starting another.
- Controlling impulses.
- Behaving appropriately and getting along with other people.

April

Authenticity: Striving to align your actions with your core values and beliefs with the hope of discovering, and then acting in sync with your true self.

A person may show authenticity by the following examples:

- Setting healthy boundaries.
- Maintain alignment between what you feel and need and what you say and do.
- Make value-based choices while taking into account intuition, research, and the bigger picture.
- Do something each day that reflects your deepest needs, wishes, and values.
- Speak up for yourself and ask for what you want.
- Offer kindness and compassion towards others.

May

Bravery: The courage to overcome fear and dangers.

A person may show Bravery by the following examples:

- Speak up for what's right, even if it's an unfavorable opinion to a group.
- Standing up for someone.
- Stick to your morals and don't give in to peer pressure.
- Show kindness to everyone you encounter.
- Take responsibility.
- Know when to say "no," and when to ask for help from others.