



# RESPONSIBILITY

Proving you can be trusted with what  
is expected of you

## HOW YOU CAN SHOW RESPONSIBILITY:

- Find an area of your home that you can help organize.
  - Clean out your desk/locker at school.
- Complete your homework in a timely manner.



## Responsibility JANUARY 2024

### SAY IT:

Repeat the definition 3 times before you get out of bed.

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### KNOW IT:

#### ASK A GROWN-UP:

- What are some of your responsibilities at work? What happens if you don't follow through on your responsibilities?

#### ASK A KID:

- Who do you know that shows responsibility? What are some ways you could try to show more responsibility?

### SEE IT:

There are many different examples of ways to be responsible. Think of some ways you can show responsibility at school, home, with your friends, and for yourself. In the popular children's book *Pigeon Wants a Puppy*, the Pigeon explains why he wants a puppy. You can check out the book from the library, or you can watch a read-aloud on YouTube. What do you think? Should the Pigeon be responsible for a puppy?

### BE IT:

If you do not already have a list of chores at your house, create a list. Come up with as many things that the kids in the family can do. Make a chart of how often the chores need to be done. Come up with a reward system to celebrate responsibility. Some families pay an allowance based on chores. Others plan special trips or award extra computer or TV time when a certain goal is achieved. Come up with a plan that helps the kids show more responsibility. If you already have chores, maybe now would be a good time to add some additional kinds of responsibility.

# PHASE

Responsibility  
JANUARY 2024



In the elementary years,  
a child develops skills that  
equip their future.

Here are three questions that all elementary-aged children are asking:

**1. Do I Have Your Attention?**

In Kindergarten and first grade, a child craves adult attention and approval.

**2. Do I Have What It Takes?**

In second and third grade, a kid wants to know how their abilities compare with peers.

**3. Do I Have Friends?**

In fourth and fifth grade, a kid begins to prioritize friends in a new way.

Relationships create a safe place to resolve who we are. Relationships bring clarity. When kids see themselves the way a loving adult sees them, it changes how they see themselves.

# january 2024

RESPONSIBILITY // VULTURE // MAHOGANY

**What's that large, dark bird** gracefully circling in the sky? If you live in the southeastern United States, or in other states during spring and fall, you might be watching a vulture. You could see many together, soaring on thermals (rising columns of air). Minimal flapping allows vultures and other raptors to conserve energy.

The two common kinds of US vultures are turkey vultures and black vultures. The California Condor (with its 10-foot wingspan) is one as well, but it is critically endangered and scientists are still working to increase its population in the wild.

Vultures are devoted mates and parents, with both male and female partners rearing the next generation. While it's been said they have a face only a mother could love – their featherless heads make plunging into carcasses easier, for one thing - they are important members of any ecosystem.

They recycle the remains of dead animals. What would happen if vultures didn't show up for work? Bodies would be left to decompose and spread disease. That would be rotten for all animals – including humans!

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How can you tell the other two kinds apart? Turkey vultures have red heads when grown which resemble, well, turkeys! Black vultures have dark heads. In flight, the larger turkey vultures have a V-like shape and teeter and totter in air currents without much flapping. Black vultures are more compact with rounder shapes, and they flap a few times before soaring.

Turkey vultures have large nasal openings and an amazing sense of smell, able to detect carrion (decaying flesh) from a mile away. Black vultures lack this superpower and might follow turkey vultures to a carcass, then try to chase them away.

**Vultures are essential workers as Mother Nature's clean-up crew.**

# january 2024

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As a strong wood desirable for everything from musical instruments to luxury furniture, mahogany's reddish brown color suggests resilience and reliability. When properly managed, these tropical hardwoods can be harvested sustainably. Some species, however, are already commercially extinct. In well-managed forests, these trees provide a more environmentally friendly building material than plastic. They grow three or four feet each year, which is triple the rate of white oaks. Furniture makers appreciate mahogany because it holds its shape, and large pieces are available since the trees grow very tall. As lumber and as a color, mahogany represents dependability and strength.

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