



**Lesson plans for  
Life's Building Blocks Character Development Program**

**Developmental Plan for Teachers (1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)**



Product	Developmental Objectives
Activity Book	Introduces children to the highlighted virtue in a fun way. Children learn the language of the virtue and see practical examples of the virtues and how they relate to their lives.
Chapter book	Children can see how the Spruce Street Six kids use their virtues to do the right thing in exciting, adventurous stories. It takes all of their virtues to make the right decisions. Too much or too little of one virtue might steer them wrong.
Board Game	Children and adults can have fun together while discussing moral dilemmas during the game. During the explanation of “why,” there is a “teachable moment” that gives you an opportunity to discuss the dilemma with the child.
Thank- You Cards	Allows a child to express gratitude to people who have helped build the child’s character, and to think about those virtues of character in their “role models” who have had a positive influence in their lives.
Family Fun cards	Allows the whole family to have more fun with the virtue of the month. Character development can be fun!



CHILD, TEACHER OR CLASS	PRODUCT TO READ	<b>To accomplish before you start the Monthly Character Program</b>
<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Welcome Letter</b>	<b>To understand the use and overall objectives of the Character Development Program.</b>
<b>Child</b>	<b>Welcome letter from Zaki</b>	<b>To introduce the child to the Spruce Street Six and their six virtues.</b>
<b>Child</b>	<b>Chapter Book</b>	<b>Read the first three pages at beginning of the Chapter book called, “Meet the Spruce Street Six”. This will familiarize them with the personalities and virtues of the kids.</b>

# Developmental Plan for Teachers (1<sup>st</sup> through 5th Grade)

Product	Purpose	Specifics	Take-Aways	Suggested Use
Activity Book	Introduces children to the highlighted virtue in a fun way.	Dialogues with Mr. Lacey at the beginning of the book relate the virtue to the child's life.	Children learn the language of virtue and see practical examples of the virtues and how they relate to their lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have the children work on sections of the book 5 pages at a time for homework or class-work.</li> <li>- Go over the correct answers in the class, and discuss the "message" behind each puzzle or game.</li> <li>- Ask the children questions about the virtue, using the Virtue of the Month guide for suggestions.</li> </ul>
Chapter book	Children can see how the Spruce Street Six kids use their virtues to do the right thing in exciting, adventurous stories.	At the end of the book there is a short epilogue called, "Something to think about." It puts the story in moral terms for the child.	It takes all of our virtues to make the right decisions. Too much or too little of one virtue might steer us wrong.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers read the book aloud to the children, asking them questions about each of the moral decision points. Each Chapter has one or more moral dilemmas to discuss with the class. (See chapter book adult guide for suggested questions.)</li> <li>- For 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Graders, have them read 2 chapters at a time for homework. (approximately 20 minutes of reading)</li> <li>- Discuss the chapters with them using the adult guide to help you structure the discussion.</li> <li>- Take the time to ask the children to judge the actions of the kids in the stories. We want children to be able to make moral judgments, and then explain why.</li> <li>- Then ask about the upcoming chapter. What do they think the kid in the story <i>should</i> do, and why?</li> <li>- There is great value in breaking down a sequence of events and discussing this in moral terms.</li> </ul>

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<b>Board Game- What Would Zaki Do?</b>	<b>Children and adults can have fun together while discussing moral dilemmas during the game.</b>	<b>Each moral dilemma asks the player to choose “A” or “B” and provide a short reason why. It is more important to discuss the reason behind their choice than judging an answer to be right or wrong.</b>	<b>During the explanation of “why,” there is a “teachable moment” that gives you an opportunity to discuss the dilemma with the child.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Using the scenario cards, read them aloud to the class. Give each student a piece of paper with either “A” or “B”.</b></li> <li>- <b>After reading question ask them to vote. Then go around room asking each child which option they choose, and WHY?</b></li> <li>- <b>This is a chance to get the students in the important discussion during the “teachable moment”.</b></li> <li>- <b>Try not to judge their moral choices – but challenge their thinking to have them defend their answer. After all the students have answered, you can point out that there are considerations for either answer. (Most of the dilemmas do not have a clear cut answer.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Fun cards</b>	<b>Allows the class to have more fun with the virtue of the month. (Class can choose activities)</b>	<b>Provides a variety of fun activities, all focused on the virtue of the month.</b>	<b>Character development can be fun!</b>	<b>As you do the activities, make sure to talk to children about the virtue that is highlighted (again, the adult guide to the virtue of the month can provide resources for you, such as intriguing questions to ask).</b>