

Character Education – Responsibility

Senate Bill 2002E expanded the character development mandate in Required Instruction to be inclusive of kindergarten through grade 12. The character development curriculum (developed or adopted by each district school board) shall stress the qualities of *patriotism, responsibility, citizenship, kindness, respect, honesty, self-control, tolerance, and cooperation.*

From your reading, you know clearly that any of the nine qualities can be found within the pages of *The Adventures of Alfred Kropp*. The committee felt, however, that it would be best for our initial attempt at a school-wide read to pick one of the 9 qualities as an area of school-wide focus. We will be emphasizing the quality of responsibility.

Responsibility – a compound word: response – ability or the ability to respond. Responsible people are accountable for their individual choices and their individual actions. People who exhibit responsibility tend to do what they are supposed to do, always try to do their best, exhibit self-discipline, think before they act, consider the consequences and accept accountability for their choices.

If you look for additional materials to support your curriculum or book discussions, please remember three invaluable resources – the District's Character to the Core booklet, Project Wisdom and your school counselors. Character to the Core also has many suggested activities and additional resources.

One Book/ One School

The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp

by Rick Yancey

Understanding some basic science concepts can help to improve comprehension and appreciation for the plot of the book. Some science concepts encountered while reading are listed:

Growth and Development, Cancer, Heredity/DNA , the Physics of forces , football, archery, Speed, Metallurgy, Codes , Machinery, Horsemanship, Archaeology, Lost civilizations.

Some ideas to use or modify--

Activity for discovering momentum discussing airbags and collisions
<http://www.newtonsapple.tv/TeacherGuide.php?id=902>

Activity for discovering forces involved in archery-
<http://www.newtonsapple.tv/TeacherGuide.php?id=1030>

football physics

A short movie clip about the science involved in making footballs. Good hook to find out more.

http://www.newtonsapple.tv/video_only.php?id=3048

interactive website for virtual experiments of force and mass

<http://jersey.uoregon.edu/vlab/KineticEnergy/>

barcodes

A short video on how barcodes work and how they are connected to a central computer. Good introduction to codes and also the genome project and genetic coding.

http://www.newtonsapple.tv/video_only.php?id=3006

Cancer causes and cell activity

<http://www.newtonsapple.tv/TeacherGuide.php?id=903>

Introductory DNA and associated mapping activity

<http://www.newtonsapple.tv/TeacherGuide.php?id=1408>