



 **Character.org**
Since 1993

The **2019 Promising Practices in Character Education** represent 5 different countries (United States, Brazil, Colombia, Haiti and Mexico); 21 states and Washington DC — with the largest numbers from New Jersey, Missouri and Florida; 210 public, charter and private schools as well as 7 organizations, 2 universities, 13 sports organizations, and 6 school districts. Character.org administers the annual process to showcase innovative best practices that are having an impact across the nation and abroad.

11 Principles of Effective Character

Principle 1: Defines, implements and embeds core values.

Principle 2: Defines character by including thinking, feeling, and doing.

Principle 3: Uses a comprehensive, intentional and proactive approach to develop character.

Principle 4: Creates a caring community.

Principle 5: Provides opportunities for moral action.

Principle 6: Provides meaningful, challenging learning in respectful ways that develops character and leads to success in life.

Principle 7: Fosters self-motivation.

Principle 8: Creates an accountable learning community.

Principle 9: Creates shared moral leadership that sustains character work.

Principle 10: Engages families and community members.

Principle 11: Assesses and adjust the character initiative regularly.

ALABAMA

[Biography of Wisdom](#)

Cornerstone Schools of Alabama

Birmingham, Alabama

[Childersburg High School Homes](#)

Childersburg High School

Childersburg, Alabama

[Eagles ACT \(Assess, Challenge, Train\)](#)

Cornerstone Schools of Alabama

Birmingham, Alabama

[Excellence Together](#)

Cornerstone Schools of Alabama

Birmingham, Alabama

[Safe and Happy Heights](#)

Vestavia Hills Elementary at Cahaba Heights

Vestavia Hills, Alabama

[Squad Wars: Building Relationships and Serving our Community](#)

Huntington Place Elementary

Northport, Alabama

[Tiger Way Kindness Agents](#)

Hartselle Intermediate School

Hartselle, Alabama

[UCS Kindness Club](#)

University Charter School

Livingston, Alabama

ARIZONA

[8th Grade Lock In](#)

Imagine East Mesa

Mesa, Arizona

[BlazerWorld Better Business Bureau](#)

Imagine Bell Canyon

Phoenix, Arizona

[Dragons Den](#)

Imagine Desert West Middle School

Phoenix, Arizona

[Imagine Desert West MS High School Night](#)

Imagine Desert West Middle School

Phoenix, Arizona

[LEAD Leadership Exploration and Development](#)

Imagine Bell Canyon

Phoenix, Arizona

[Lunch Bunch](#)

Imagine Prep Surprise

Surprise, Arizona

[Respect Assembly](#)

Imagine Coolidge Elementary School

Coolidge, Arizona

California

[City of Mission Viejo Community of Character Committee](#)

City of Mission Viejo Community of Character Committee

Mission Viejo, California

[Steel Sports Coaching System](#)

Steel Sports Coaching System

Hermosa, California

[Team Talks](#)

Coastal Academy

Oceanside, California

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

[Data Day](#)

Hope Community Public Charter School

Washington, DC

[Elite Scholar Initiative](#)

Imagine Hope Tolson

Washington, DC

FLORIDA

[Career Day](#)

Imagine Schools South Vero

South Vero, Florida

[Character Circles](#)

Seminole Middle School

Seminole, Florida

[FIRE Focused Intervention, Remediation and Enrichment Program](#)

Imagine School Land O' Lakes

Land O' Lakes, Florida

[JIFmas Tree \(Justice, Integrity, Fun\)](#)

Imagine School at Town Center

Palm Coast, Florida

[Kids helping Kids](#)

Imagine Chancellor

Boyton Beach, Florida

[Kindness Matters at the Imagine North Port Upper Campus](#)

Imagine School

North Port, Florida

[Mental Health Tiered System of Support](#)

Imagine South Lake Charter

Clermont, Florida

[Other People MATter Mindset](#)

Imagine School at Lakewood Ranch

Bradenton, Florida

[Restorative Questions for Conflict Resolution Cards](#)

Imagine School at Palmer Ranch

Sarasota, Florida

[Schoolwide Research on Creative, Inventive, and Notable People](#)

Imagine South Lake Charter

Clermont, Florida

[Sharing Refrigerator](#)

Imagine School at North Port

North Port, Florida

[Student ACES Character education for Student Athletes](#)

ACES

West Palm Beach, Florida

[Student Success Wall](#)

Imagine School at Town Center

Palm Coast, Florida

[Two Student Led Task Forces](#)

Imagine School at Palmer Ranch

Sarasota, Florida

[Warrior Circles/Restore Team](#)

Imagine Schools at South Lake

Clermont, Florida

[We Belong Cafe Club](#)

Imagine Charter School at Weston

Weston, Florida

GEORGIA

[Birthday Bins and Meal Kits for Foster Families](#)

Liberty Elementary School

Canton, Georgia

[Caring for Caritas](#)

Liberty Elementary School

Canton, Georgia

[Small Group Counseling Leads to Recess Inclusion](#)

Rocky Branch Elementary School- Oconee County Schools

Bogart, Georgia

Kansas

[Brewer Elementary's Morning Meetings](#)

David Brewer Elementary School

Leavenworth, Kansas

[Classroom Constitution](#)

David Brewer Elementary School

Leavenworth, Kansas

[Fabulous "FAB" Families](#)

Nemaha Central Elementary & Middle School

Seneca, Kansas

Kentucky

[Global Game Changer](#)

Global Game Changers

Louisville, Kentucky

Maryland

[Character Coaches](#)

Imagine Lincoln Public Charter

Temple Hills, Maryland

[Lunch Academies](#)

Imagine Foundations at Leeland

Upper Marlboro, Maryland

[PSAT BootCamp](#)

Imagine Lincoln

Temple Hills, Maryland

[The Giving Tree character initiative](#)

Imagine Andrews Public Charter School

Joint Base Andrews, Maryland

[The Imagine Andrews' Concern Box](#)

Imagine Andrews Public Charter School

Joint Base Andrews, Maryland

Michigan

[Bridge Builders](#)

Berkshire Middle School

Bloomfield, Michigan

[International Kids Film Festival](#)

Pierce Elementary School

Birmingham, Michigan

[Science Literacy](#)

Birmingham Covington School

Bloomfield, Michigan

[Tobey Way](#)

Tobey Elementary School

Scotts, Michigan

Minnesota

[Community of Peace Academy's 3 Days of Service](#)

Community of Peace Academy

Saint Paul, Minnesota

[Inclusivity Rock Garden](#)

Lakes International Language Academy

Forest Lake, Minnesota

Missouri

[Restorative Circles](#)

Wydown Middle School

Clayton, Missouri

[Abilities Awareness Day](#)

Barretts Elementary School

Manchester, Missouri

[Abilities Day](#)

Ladue Early Childhood Center

Creve Coeur, Missouri

[ANP Buddies](#)

Oakville High School

St. Louis, Missouri

[Blowing Off Steam](#)

Antonia Middle

Barnhart, Missouri

[Bridging the Generation Gap with Grandfriends](#)

Chesterfield Elementary

Chesterfield, Missouri

[Character Education Action Teams](#)

Crestview Middle School

Ellisville, Missouri

[Character Family Days](#)

Cold Water Elementary

Florissant, Missouri

[Cheetah Chill Corner](#)

Hazelwood School District - Early Childhood

Florissant, Missouri

[Choose Kind Kids Club](#)

Washington-Franklin Elementary School

Farmington, Missouri

[Creating OWLstanding Community Partnerships](#)

Windsor Elementary

Imperial, Missouri

[Diversity Day](#)

Lindbergh High School

St. Louis, Missouri

[Ecobuds](#)

Highcroft Ridge Elementary

Chesterfield, Missouri

[Empathy in Action](#)

Truman Learning Center; Farmington R-VII

Farmington, Missouri

[Fist Bump Fridays](#)

Ralph M. Captain

St. Louis, Missouri

[Green Schools Quest: Bottle Caps, Shoes, Pill Bottles, Used Markers](#)

Nottingham Community Access and Job Training High School

St. Louis, Missouri

[Green Trails Crews](#)

Green Trails Elementary

Chesterfield, Missouri

[Help for Billy Book Study](#)

George Guffey Elementary

Fenton, Missouri

[Just Because](#)

Mehlville High School

St. Louis, Missouri

[K.U.D.O.S. \(kids understanding differences and overcoming stereotypes\)](#)

Crestview Middle School

Ellisville, Missouri

[Restorative Circles](#)

Wydown Middle School

Chesterfield, Missouri

[Leadership Academy](#)

McKelvey Elementary

St. Louis, Missouri

[LHS Connections](#)

Lafayette High School

Wildwood, Missouri

[Light Up Lincoln County](#)

Lincoln County R-III ECEC

Troy, Missouri

[Limitations are Forgotten; Differences are Celebrated](#)

Nottingham Community Access and Job Training High School

St. Louis, Missouri

[Maccabia Games](#)

Epstein Hebrew Academy

St. Louis, Missouri

[Mighty Oaks Field Day](#)

Ladue Early Childhood Center

Creve Coeur, Missouri

[Mindfulness Groups](#)

Rockwood School District

Wildwood, Missouri

[Mugs With Hugs](#)

Maple Grove

Dittmer, Missouri

[Para-Cord-Pets](#)

Sperreng Middle School

St. Louis, Missouri

[Passport to the Bayless World](#)

Bayless Elementary School

St. Louis, Missouri

[Peace Begins with Me](#)

Cold Water Elementary

Florissant, Missouri

[Pierremont Student Leadership](#)

Pierremont Elementary

Manchester, Missouri

[Red Hats for Hearts](#)

Antonia Middle School, Fox C-6 School District

Barnhart, Missouri

[Ryan's Well Fundraiser](#)

Belton School District 124

Belton, Missouri

[Sock it to Cancer](#)

Don Earl Early Childhood Center

Arnold, Missouri

[Sock It To Me!](#)

Uthoff Valley Elem

Fenton, Missouri

[Student led character videos](#)

Woerther Elementary School

Ballwin, Missouri

[Student led Service Day](#)

Truman Middle School

St. Louis, Missouri

[Student Wellness Conference](#)

Eureka High School

Eureka, Missouri

[Teen Voice for Change](#)

Parkway South High School

Manchester, Missouri

[The Captain Closet](#)

Ralph M Captain

St. Louis, Missouri

[The Fifth Grade Arcade](#)

BALLWIN ELEMENTARY

Ballwin, Missouri

[Viking Leadership Academy](#)

Francis Howell High School

St. Charles, Missouri

[Walk, Run, Roll Event](#)

Rockwood School District - Early Childhood

Wildwood, Missouri

[WIN \(What I Need\) Time](#)

Parkway Central Middle School

Chesterfield, Missouri

New Jersey

[Celebrate the Children colab](#)

Whippany Park High School

Whippany, New Jersey

["Let's Talk" during Family Night](#)

JONAS SALK MIDDLE SCHOOL/OLD BRIDGE TWP SCHOOLS

Old Bridge, New Jersey

["Out of office" day](#)

Carl Sandburg Middle School

Old Bridge, New Jersey

[Creating a Culture of Kindness](#)

Frank R. Conwell MS 4

Jersey City, New Jersey

["Seeds of Service"](#)

Catherine A. Dwyer Elementary School, Rockaway Township, NJ

Wharton, New Jersey

[A Roadmap for Respect, Kindness, Gratitude, Grit, Courage and Resilience](#)

Montville Township Public Schools

Montville, New Jersey

[Administrators, Survivors, and Athletes Team Competition Day](#)

West Milford Field Hockey Program

West Milford, New Jersey

[All In!](#)

Oxford Central School

Oxford, New Jersey

[Arcade for Autism](#)

Hanover Park High School

East Hanover, New Jersey

[ARK Energy Bus Agreements](#)

A. Russell Knight Elementary School

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

[BookMates](#)

Rosa International Middle School

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

[Calming Corners](#)

Ben Franklin Elementary

Lawrence Township, New Jersey

[Campbell's Food Bankpacks](#)

Campbell Elementary School

Metuchen, New Jersey

[Caretakers](#)

Aphawa Elementary School

West Milford, New Jersey

[Celebrity Day - Substance Abuse Prevention](#)

Copeland Middle School

Rockaway, New Jersey

[Character Education Through Sports Education](#)

Liberty Corner School

Liberty Corner, New Jersey

[Christmas At Grams](#)

Terence C. Reilly School No. 7

Elizabeth, New Jersey

[Compassion Through Art program](#)

Board of Education

Little Falls, New Jersey

[Culture, Caffeine & Conversation](#)

Samuel T. Busansky Upper Elementary School

Pemberton, New Jersey

[Cunningham Helping and Mentoring Petway Patriots Program \(CHAMPP\)](#)

Petway Elementary School

Vineland, New Jersey

[DEASEL days](#)

A.C. Redshaw Elementary School

New Brunswick, New Jersey

[Digital Citizenship Family Night](#)

Riverview Elementary School

Denville, New Jersey

[Empathy & Compassion Through Service Learning](#)

West Deptford Middle School

WEST DEPTFORD, New Jersey

[Family Literacy Night](#)

Raymond E. Voorhees Elementary School

Old Bridge, New Jersey

[First Ladies](#)

Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology & Arts

Elizabeth, New Jersey

[Footprints girls mentoring program](#)

Woodmont Elementary School

Pine Brook, New Jersey

[FOP \(Fraternal Order of Police\) Club](#)

Cherry Hill High School East

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

[Full STEAM Ahead](#)

West Milford High School

West Milford, New Jersey

[GATOR Binder](#)

Virgil I. Grissom Elementary School

Old Bridge, New Jersey

[GTC Restorative Justice](#)

Camden County Technical Schools Gloucester Township Campus
Sicklerville, New Jersey

[Helping Others Through Practice](#)

Camden County Technical Schools' Pennsauken Campus
Pennsauken, New Jersey

[Highlander Academy Mentor Program](#)

West Milford Township Public Schools
West Milford, New Jersey

[Highlander Helpers](#)

West Milford Township Public Schools
West Milford, New Jersey

[Husky's Healthy Pedalers](#)

Memorial Elementary School
Laurence Harbor, New Jersey

[Interact's Annual "Casino Night"](#)

Cinnaminson High School
Cinnaminson, New Jersey

[Interview Day](#)

Lawrence Middle School
Lawrenceville, New Jersey

[JEDTA Unity Day](#)

John E Dwyer Technology Academy
Elizabeth, New Jersey

[KDM Snack Cart](#)

Katharine D. Malone Elementary School
Rockaway, New Jersey

[Kindness Ambassadors](#)

Walter M. Schirra Elementary School
Old Bridge, New Jersey

[Kindness Buddies](#)

East Greenwich Township Schools
Mickleton, New Jersey

[Kindness Ninjas](#)

Birchwood School

Hibernia, New Jersey

[Life Lines](#)

Berlin Community School

Berlin, New Jersey

[LMS Energy Bus](#)

Lawrence Middle School

Lawrenceville, New Jersey

[Lunch & Recess Captains](#)

Clara Barton Elementary

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

[Make A Change](#)

Anthony Rossi Intermediate School

Vineland, New Jersey

[Math Buddy Mondays](#)

Greenwood Elementary School

Hamilton, New Jersey

[Miller Kids Konnect](#)

Old Bridge Public Schools

Old Bridge, New Jersey

[Parents as Partners](#)

Joseph H. Brensinger Elementary

Jersey City, New Jersey

[Parrot Pride Buddy Program](#)

Duarte - Marti School No. 28

Elizabeth, New Jersey

[Petway's Parent Partnership](#)

Petway Elementary School

Vineland, New Jersey

[Phillip the Fill-Up](#)

Aphawa Elementary School

West Milford, New Jersey

[Popping with Good Character](#)

Dogwood Hill Elementary School

Oakland, New Jersey

[Positive Postcards](#)

Leroy Gordon Cooper Elementary School

Cliffwood Beach, New Jersey

[R.O.B.O.T \(Respect Others; Be Outstanding Together\)](#)

Catherine A. Dwyer Elementary School, Rockaway Township School District

Wharton, New Jersey

[Social Issue Book Clubs](#)

Manito Elementary School

Oakland, New Jersey

[Soup-er Supper for Seniors](#)

Cinnaminson Middle School

Cinnaminson, New Jersey

[Stars Over Africa](#)

Rosa International Middle School

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

[Step-Up Club](#)

Valley Middle School/ Oakland Public Schools District

Oakland, New Jersey

[Super Hero Powers Rally](#)

Donald Stewart Ecc 51

Elizabeth, New Jersey

[TedEd Club](#)

Joseph H. Brensinger Elementary PS #17

Jersey City, New Jersey

[The Circle of Friends Character Education Club](#)

Newcomb Middle School

Pemberton, New Jersey

[The Green Team](#)

West Milford High School

West Milford, New Jersey

[The Joining Old and Young \(JOY\)](#)

Heights School

Oakland, New Jersey

[The Mustang Way](#)

Carusi Middle School

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

[Tiger's Den](#)

Walter M. Schirra Elementary School

Old Bridge, New Jersey

[UGL Kind Kids](#)

Upper Greenwood Lake School

Hewitt, New Jersey

[Unity Day](#)

Cherry Hill High School East

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

[Voorhees Read Patrol](#)

Raymond E. Voorhees Elementary School

Old Bridge, New Jersey

[Walk a Mile In Our Shoes](#)

Old Bridge High School

Matawan, New Jersey

[WE RISE](#)

West Essex Middle School

North Caldwell, New Jersey

[West Milford High School Athletic Hall of Fame \(WMHOF\)](#)

West Milford High School Athletic Hall of Fame

West Milford, New Jersey

[Westbrook Cultural Connect Club](#)

Westbrook Elementary School

West Milford, New Jersey

[Westbrook service project](#)

Westbrook Elementary School

West Milford, New Jersey

[Why Not Me, Why Not You, Why Not Us?](#)

Slocum Skewes School

Ridgefield, New Jersey

[Why you are Awesome](#)

Newcomb Middle School

Pemberton, New Jersey

New York

[Meadow Character C.O.U.N.T.S. Club](#)

Meadow Elementary School

Baldwin, New York

North Carolina

[FALCON HEROES](#)

Southeast Guilford High School

Greensboro, North Carolina

[Leading with Character](#)

Ridgewood Elementary School

Greensboro, North Carolina

[Seahawk Scholars](#)

Sumner Elementary School

Greensboro, North Carolina

[The Hawk's Nest initiative](#)

Northern Guilford Middle School

Greensboro, North Carolina

[Together We Are Stronger](#)

Alamance Elementary

Greensboro, North Carolina

[Together We Are Stronger](#)

Erwin Montessori Elementary

Greensboro, North Carolina

[Wildcats on the Move](#)

Weddington Hills Elementary School

Concord, North Carolina

Ohio

[5 house character system](#)

Imagine Leadership Academy

Akron, Ohio

[Be a Buddy Not a Bully](#)

Imagine Hill Academy

Toledo, Ohio

[Celebrating Diversity through Self-Portraits](#)

Imagine Clay Avenue Community School

Toledo, Ohio

[The Grizzly Den](#)

Imagine Groveport Community School

Groveport, Ohio

[The Rising Legends of Imagine Dayton](#)

Imagine Klepinger

Dayton, Ohio

Oklahoma

[Creating Hope](#)

Duncan Middle School

Duncan, Oklahoma

[Dimes for Dishes](#)

Sadler Arts Academy

Muskogee, Oklahoma

[Emergency Responders Appreciation Week](#)

Jefferson Elementary School

Pryor, Oklahoma

[HALO Week](#)

Duncan High School

Duncan, Oklahoma

[Never Stop Improving: A Pedagogy of Reflection and Action](#)

Muskogee Early Childhood Center

Muskogee, Oklahoma

Pennsylvania

[Developing Character and Grit through Running](#)

Oxford Valley Elementary School

Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania

Friday 15

Pennsbury High School

Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania

Memorial Day Event

Pen Argyl High School

Pen Argyl, Pennsylvania

Mini-THON

East Pennsboro Area High School

Enola, Pennsylvania

Multicultural Youth Leaders Group

Pennsbury High School

Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania

Not Yet

Wissahickon High School

Ambler, Pennsylvania

Rollin' with PAW-sitivity

Fallsington Elementary School

Fallsington, Pennsylvania

The Bigs and Littles Program

School District of Haverford Township

Havertown, Pennsylvania

The Community-Based Center for Sustainable Energy

Bucks County Technical High School

Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania

South Carolina

Girls IN Program

Porter-Gaud School

Charleston, South Carolina

Texas

"Walk a Mile in My Shoes" Museum

Medlin Middle School

Trophy Club, Texas

[Character Ed Task Force](#)
Klein Forest High School
Spring, Texas

[Culture 4 Caring](#)
Klein ISD
Spring, Texas

[EXPLORE! field trips](#)
Cambridge Elementary
San Antonio, Texas

[IDLP & Intentional ethical leadership development courses](#)
Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets
College Station, Texas

[International Fair](#)
Weber Elementary
Houston, Texas

[Medlin Cares: A Community Conference and Expo](#)
Medlin Middle School
Trophy Club, Texas

[NPE North Pointe Runners](#)
North Pointe Elementary
Houston, Texas

[Parent Academy](#)
School of Science and Technology-Corpus Christi
Corpus Christi, Texas

[Partner Dance Class](#)
Clear Brook High School
Friendswood, Texas

[Student-Led Conferences](#)
Harmony Science Academy - El Paso
El Paso, Texas

[Super Bowl of Service](#)
Weber Elementary
Houston, Texas

[The Future Leading Into the Future](#)
Weber Elementary
Houston, Texas

[Unique Week](#)

Kay Granger Elementary

Keller, Texas

[Weekly Community Building Circle](#)

Morton Ranch Junior High

Katy, Texas

Virginia

[The Hampton House Way](#)

Stafford County Public Schools Hampton Oaks

Stafford, Virginia

Wisconsin

[Cancer Boxes](#)

Rawson Elementary School

South Milwaukee, Wisconsin

[Cardinals Care Capsules](#)

Necedah Area School District

Necedah, Wisconsin

[Kern National Transformation Network](#)

Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern Institute for the Transformation of Medical Education at the Medical College of Wisconsin

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

[Rockfield News](#)

Rockfield Elementary School

Germantown, Wisconsin

[WON80 Club](#)

Necedah High School

Necedah, Wisconsin

International

[Blankets](#)

Secundaria TEC de Monterrey Campus Laguna
Torreon, Mexico

[Character Education Task Force \(CETF\)](#)

Colegio Nueva Granada
Bogota, Colombia

[Coaching the CNG Way- Character!](#)

Colegio Nueva Granada
Bogota, Colombia

[First Tech Challenge](#)

Escuela Secundaria Bicultural Thomas Alva Edison AC
Hermosillo, Mexico

[Generosity race](#)

Secundaria Bilingüe Tec de Monterrey campus Ciudad Juárez
Juárez, Mexico

[Learning for Life](#)

Haiti Partners
Vero Beach, Florida and Haiti

[Maintenance and Cleaning Staff Visit](#)

CEL - Intercultural School
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[Sumando Niñas](#)

Colegio Americano de Torreon A. C.
Torreon, Mexico

[The Friend Seal Campaign](#)

CEL - Intercultural School
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

