

# Quick-Prep Character Lesson Plans

## Lesson #1 – Introduction to Basic Character

All Ages



### Preview

Detailed, introductory lesson for all ages provides a visual presentation of basic character as a wall you build into your life, with individual boxes representing particular character traits. Optional assessment in the form of a game requiring participation by all shows current grasp of character.

**Suggestion: Read through the lesson and prepare well before class time.**

### What you will need:

- 10 or more unmarked boxes you can stack to create a wall
- 1 more box on which you will write the word **HONESTY**
- Printed copy of the complete list of character traits found at: <http://character-in-action.com/character-traits-make-a-whopping-difference/>

**What you will do:**

1. Before lesson time, put your unmarked boxes, unstacked, where you can reach them while talking. Scatter them around – but do not stack any of them.
2. Keep the **HONESTY** box separate from the others, with the word hidden.
3. Introduce character as an exciting building project you will undertake together.  
Explain that people build character into their lives. It isn't there at birth. It doesn't grow there naturally. It must be built.  
You and your listeners will work together to build character into your lives.
4. **As you talk**, stack 10 or more unmarked boxes to form a wall.  
Do not include the HONESTY box in your wall, but make your wall of boxes as large and as high as you wish.



5. **Say:** “Each one of us will build our own wall.  
We won't build a wall of boxes.  
It won't be a wall of bricks or concrete.  
We won't be able to touch the walls with our hands.  
Our walls will contain blocks of character.”
6. **Say:** “A brick wall is made of what? Right! Bricks!  
A concrete wall is made of what? Yes! Concrete!  
Our **CHARACTER** walls will be made of **CHARACTER TRAITS**.”

7. Hold up the box on which you wrote **HONESTY**.



8. **Say:** "Honesty is one character trait. Can you name others?"
9. Stack the **HONESTY** box on top of your wall as you call on people for ideas.  
Allow one minute for participation.  
Add a few words from your printed list of character traits.
10. **Say:** "We've all put some blocks in our **CHARACTER** walls already. How many of you think you already have a tall, strong **CHARACTER** wall?"
11. **Say:** "We're going to play a game to see how strong your **CHARACTER** wall already is."

**Character game:**

Full instructions for the "Character Eating Challenge" game may be quickly downloaded and printed from the PDF provided at: <http://character-in-action.com/downloads/character-activities/charactereatingchallenge.pdf>

