HEMPSTEAD City of Character

Just for Kids!

"Virtue"

vs. Impurity

"Demonstrating honesty and integrity in my life by doing what is right."

I will:

- *respect my leaders.*
- *treat others with dignity.*
- *use good manners.*
- *not be sarcastic.*
- *remember that "all men are created equal."*

–permission to use granted by Character First

What is Honor?

The word "honor" is a Latin word meaning "official dignity, esteemed." Honor means to show the worth and value of a person or thing.

It is important to show honor to those in authority over you, such as parents and teachers. You can show them honor by obeying them, listening to them, respecting their wishes and property, expressing thankfulness, and keeping a good attitude.

Because we remember that "all men are created equal," we can try to understand people who are different from us and to see the value in them. We can show them honor by making eye contact with them, being friendly, and by listening to them carefully.

Remember to show honor to the elderly. Stand up when they enter the room and remember good manners and respectful titles such as "sir" and "ma'am." When you extend honor, you will receive honor.

How do you show

Dishonor	Honor
Rolling your eyes	Standing up straight
Slouching posture	Making eye contact
Not answering or mumbling	Using titles, such as "sir" and "ma'am"
Laughing at another's ideas	Speaking clearly
Being sarcastic or mocking	Standing when an elderly person enter the room
Harming other's property	Obeying your authorities
	Showing gratefulness to others

Memory Work

I will show respect to those in charge
By my attitude and acts,
I'll treat with dignity those I see
In spite of others' "facts."

I'll honor in my manners too,
To all created equal.
My words will only kindness bring,
And free from any sting!

Commitments are important steps
to guard us from disaster.
And just to show we know them well,
Let's say them even faster.

By Johnyne Rees

Honor in Nature

The American Buffalo

The American Buffalo, also known as bison roamed the North American plains by the thousands until they were nearly extinct due to over-hunting by early American settlers by 1885. Thankfully, dedicated people have worked to make sure the buffalo did not completely perish. Today, there are over 200,000 buffalo inhabiting North America due to privately managed herds.

Organizing Structure

Each bison herd has two sub-herds. One is composed of bulls and is managed by the mature bulls. The other is composed of cows and calves with the older cows leading the herd. Bison organize themselves by dominance rather than by territory.

Heeding the Call

Buffalo communicate with each other with sounds and head gestures. When the lead male wants to change the direction the herd is headed he will step out in front. Buffalo make snorting or grunting sounds to indicate anger or warn of danger.

From June through September, the sub-herds will reunite for breeding season. Males will sometimes fight to maintain dominance within the herd. Lead bulls shake their heads to warn challenging males of an eminent fight if the insubordinate male does not back down.

Despite their massive bodies, buffalo have incredible stamina and can sustain speeds of 30 mph for up to 30 minutes. They can also scale rocky mountainsides with the agility of mountain goats. One look at a bison confirms its obvious strength. Even grizzly bears know to respect healthy adult male buffalo.

Protecting One Another

A Blackfoot Indian witnessed a grizzly bear foolishly attack a young heifer. A massive bull charged knocking the bear down, freeing the heifer. The bear rose up to defend itself. For the next 15 to 20 minutes the bull tossed and gored the bear. Realizing it could not win, the bear tried to retreat. The enraged bull pursued the bear and continued to punish it. Even after the bear showed no signs of life, the bull continued its attack.

Communicating Respect

Native Americans respected and valued the buffalo making full use of its many assets. Bison provided many of the tribes needs including blankets, tepee coverings, food and clothing.

Buffalo are majestic animals worthy of honor.
Adaptation by Kelly Sorge

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