

CHARACTER EDUCATION



Perseverance



Steve Hiles' Educational Resources 2017

Product Description

This product will make a welcome addition to any elementary classroom library. Students will discover the importance of perseverance as a needed pillar in one's character. This resource includes open-ended questions, perseverance information sheets, four fun-filled activities and exit ticket!



Steve Hiles

You May Be Interested In:

[Kindness & Caring](#)
[Standing up to Bullying](#)
[Respect](#)
[Responsibility](#)



Product Features

- ❖ Open-ended discussion questions
- ❖ Perseverance information sheets:
 - ❖ What they will learn and why it matters
 - ❖ Defining perseverance and common myth
 - ❖ Ways to persevere in different situations
 - ❖ WIIFM: What's in it for me?
 - ❖ "My Hero!" sheet
 - ❖ "You got 60 seconds!" sheet
 - ❖ "You got 10 seconds!" sheet
- ❖ Exit ticket



Teacher information Sheet

Objective: Students will discover the importance of perseverance as a needed pillar in one's character. They learn about how those they look up to have persevered through difficult times. They will learn to understand the meaning of perseverance. They will learn strategies to persevere through difficult tasks. They will learn the value of completing a task successfully. They will discover the value and lessons that can be learned when they fail. They will learn that it is okay to ask for help when they really need it. Additionally, they will learn age-appropriate strategies to persevere through a variety of situations, such as work that their teachers give, family challenges, and friendships.

Materials: The following materials are used to complete the lesson:

1. Open-ended discussion questions
2. PERSEVERANCE Information Sheets: 1) What they will learn and why it matters
2) Defining perseverance and a common myth 3) Ways to persevere in different situations (4) WIIFM: What's in it for me?
3. "My Hero!" Sheet
4. "You got 60 seconds!" Sheet
5. "You got 10 seconds!" Sheet
6. Small boxes. Enough to give one to each small group.
7. Sand. Enough for Activity 4
8. Coins. Enough for Activity 4
9. Chalkboard and chalk (optional)
10. Crayons, markers or colored pencils, pencils

Teacher information sheet (cont.)

Outcome: Students will experience several outcomes upon completion of this lesson plan.

- Students will gain a clear perspective of what perseverance really means and be able to demonstrate examples of perseverance.
- Students will develop an understanding that perseverance is one of the pillars of character that make up each person.
- Students will develop a clear vision for how perseverance will improve their lives and benefit their futures.
- Students will gain the confidence to take on tasks given them, no matter how difficult those tasks may seem.
- Students will develop the courage to allow “failure” or incompleteness of any task to fuel their knowledge base for the next challenge.
- Students will find common attributes among themselves and those in the community who show the quality of perseverance so that they develop a can-do attitude.
- Students will find the courage to ask for help when needed and develop the ability to discern when they need to ask vs. when they should wait to ask.
- Students will see how persevering through challenges (versus complaining about them or giving up) will actually grant them the strong possibility for improved relationships with teachers, family members and friends.

Activities: Students will use the following group and individual, hands-on activities to understand perseverance, how to persevere in various situations, and learn how important it is to persevere no matter how difficult those tasks may seem:

1. Discussion Questions (at the beginning and at the end)
2. My Hero!
3. You’ve got 60 seconds!
4. Find the hidden coin

Teacher information sheet (cont.)

Procedure:

1. Activity 1: Use Open-ended discussion questions to start discussion. Remember that any answer is okay as this is a starting point to allow discussion. You will return to these questions at the end of the lesson plan.
2. Pass out Perseverance Information Sheets: 1) What they will learn and why it matters 2) Defining perseverance and a common myth 3) Ways to persevere in different situations. Use these sheets to continue the discussion and let every child participate.
3. Activity 2: My hero! Have a brief conversation about the Real Life heroes in our lives that have accomplished greatness because of perseverance. These can include celebrities and athletes, important people in history, real life influencers, your options are open and the discussion will lead itself as the children tell you about their hero. Keep it brief so that you can move on and have them draw their hero, celebrity or real life situations, and write how their hero has persevered and what that got him or her.
4. Activity 3: You've got 60 seconds! Give the children the 60-seconds sheet and tell them they have 60 seconds to draw a map of the school. Instead of the 60 seconds you promised, set your timer to 10 seconds. Then have them stop. Then give them the 10-seconds sheet of paper and give them 10 seconds. Let them compare their maps. Discuss how "failing" the first time, got them ready for the second.
5. Activity 4: Find the hidden coin. Break the children into groups and give each group a box with sand inside and 8 coins. Ask each group to find 10 coins. Give them as much time as you can for this so that they really *FEEL* the weight of trying to find something that they cannot. This leads to a wonderful discussion using the Info sheets (as needed).
6. Thank the students for their participation and dedication and then return to the first activity. Use the Open-ended discussion to go over the questions again and see where some children may have changed their minds. Ask students if they have any additional questions.

Discussion Questions

1. Who knows what the word perseverance means?
2. When you get homework that seems too hard, how easy is it to quit?
3. Have you ever tried to do something over and over again but it didn't work?
4. Do you ever get in trouble for throwing a fit when you can't do something you are trying to do?
5. Do you ever feel impatient when you're trying to complete a task that is TAKING FOREVER?
6. Do you sometimes get afraid that you won't be able to finish a big task like a homework project or cleaning your room?
7. When you're stuck on something, do you ever whine and complain about it?
When you're stuck on something, do you ever ask for help?



Defining Perseverance and Common Myths and Busts

What you will learn and why it matters

What you will learn

- What PERSEVERANCE is
- Why PERSEVERANCE is important
- How to practice PERSEVERANCE when you have a tough school assignment or chore to complete
- When to ask for help and when not to
- The feeling of accomplishment that you get when you PERSEVERE and finally succeed
- How failure is okay when you have really PERSEVERED and things still don't work

Why it matters

1. Is finishing what you set out to do important?
2. If you have to quit something, would you like to know that you tried your very best first?
3. Do you want to grow up and live the kind of life you want to live because you learned to do the things you needed to do to accomplish your goals?
4. Do you believe that you can accomplish anything?
5. If practice makes perfect, is it reasonable to think that learning and practicing perseverance now will help you get a good job?
6. Do you want to be able to take of yourself?
7. Are you willing to work hard at a task for as long as it takes in order to achieve a goal?

If you have answered, "Yes," to any of the above questions, you may see how perseverance is an important step to getting things that you want and need. Perseverance is the one thing that can help you to keep pushing to accomplish a task or get something, even when it seems impossible.

Defining Perseverance and Common Myths and Busts

Merriam Webster Dictionary

- continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failure, or opposition
- the action or condition or an instance of persevering

Steadfastness

A Common Myth

Perseverance is all about finishing a difficult task on time.

BUST

Perseverance is also about being steadfast even when things are difficult. Perseverance is about continuing to try even when you don't want to. Perseverance means to keep going even when there is a lack of success. It's about not letting obstacles get in your way or stop you from trying. It's about being able to keep at a task even when you are not getting the encouragement that you need and deserve. Perseverance is about making yourself keep at it even when there is a delay in achievement.

Ways to Persevere in Various Situations

In general

- ✓ Always avoid giving up. You know that phrase, "Never, never give up." People say that a lot because when you give up, you will not get what you want. But when you persevere, you will often get what you want.
- ✓ When things take too long, keep trying.
- ✓ There are times to ask for help but only when you have really tried to accomplish something and tried several different ways.
- ✓ Accept defeat. Sometimes, with the council of a trusted adult, you will need to accept that what you are trying to do isn't going to work. Failure sounds like a really bad word. Many people use "Failure" as a criticism. But the truth is, no GREAT accomplishment ever happened without some failure first. Often, failing at one thing will lead to a great accomplishment with another thing.
- ✓ Even when you know you won't win, finish the race! If you've ever watched sports or races, you will notice that the losers don't all just quit at the end. When the score is 100 to 80, those players still try their hardest. The last runner in the race still goes her fastest. Why? Because they persevere to the end, no matter the outcome.

At home

- ✓ When you are given a chore and you can't do it, stop! Think of ways that you CAN do it. Think of at least 5 ways and try each one.
- ✓ Avoid whining or throwing a fit when you can't do something.
- ✓ Look for things to do that seem hard. Challenge yourself at least once a week to do something that you think you cannot do.

Remember, it's okay to fail!

At school

- ✓ Always do your best to finish something even if it's hard.
- ✓ Speaking of doing your best, don't just do "enough" to finish. Always give your work a little bit extra.
- ✓ Try to do tasks without complaining.
- ✓ Only ask for help when you've tried at least 5 different ways to accomplish something.

Socially

- ✓ Always encourage others who are trying hard to accomplish a large task.

- ✓ Encourage others to give 110% and promise that you will do the same.
- ✓ Ask for help. Just make sure that you do only after you have tried to do something at least 5-10 different ways.
- ✓ Ask how you can help.
- ✓ When you are working with others, always be courteous.
- ✓ When you are working with others, avoid complaining.
- ✓ When you are working with others, avoid asking them to do things your way.

Trying to control the behavior of others does not work well and only causes conflict. Remember, being offended with the people on your team will only hurt the group effort.

Homework:

- ✓ Finish big projects a little at a time. When you get a big project, read through all the instructions and make a list of everything you need to do to finish.
- ✓ Put the list in order and circle the things on the list that take the most time.
- ✓ Put a star by the things that you don't understand or need help with.
- ✓ Work a little on the circled items and the items you put a star by every day, PLUS one other item on the list.
- ✓ Revise your list when it isn't working for you.
- ✓ When you have a challenging or even boring task, tell yourself that you are very excited to work on it. Every time you tell yourself something, your brain will *believe you!* So tell your brain to get with the program!

WIIFM: What's in it for me?

WIIFM: What's in it for me?

Having perseverance helps you in the following ways:

- ✓ You can do things that you never thought you could do
- ✓ You can relax, knowing that you will be able to handle difficult tasks that come your way
- ✓ You feel good when you achieve your goals
- ✓ You can actually get more of the things that you want

Perseverance is one of the most important qualities you can develop because sometimes life gets hard. We all have the ability to make things happen, push through our fear, and work hard to accomplish tasks. And you do too! You can be anything and do anything and it's not just because of hard work. It's also because you kept at it even when it seemed impossible.

Perseverance

Thank you

Thank you for your commitment to learning perseverance. Having perseverance helps you to accomplish great things. It also helps you to handle it when things get tough. Perseverance also helps when you fail. Remember, no great thing was ever accomplished, in the history of our world, that wasn't done so with struggle and even failure, in other words: perseverance. Thank you!

Ask if students have any questions:

Credit:

Carrie Glenn, Founder of Etiquette at Hand

Exit Ticket

Write at least one fact that you have learned about perseverance. Please share a strategy that you would use to demonstrate perseverance.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Exit Ticket

Write at least one fact that you have learned about perseverance. Please share a strategy that you would use to demonstrate perseverance.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Credits

Thanks to all of the amazing teacher-authors who created the design elements, fonts, and lesson material used in this resource.



Steve Hiles' Educational Resources granted copyright license for commercial distribution worldwide.



Terms of Use

Thank you for your purchase! By purchasing this resource, you are agreeing that the contents are the property of Steve Hiles and licensed to you only for classroom/personal use as a single user. I retain the copyright, and reserve all rights to this product.

THE ORIGINAL PURCHASER MAY:

- *Make copies for the purchaser's classroom, including homeschooling, or tutor sessions
- *Make one copy for back up purposes, but not with intent to redistribute
- *Direct other interested persons to my store
- *Reference (without distribution) this product in blog posts, at seminars, professional development workshops, or other such venues PROVIDED there is both credit given to myself as the author and a link back to my TPT store is included in your post/presentation

YOU MAY NOT:

- *Claim this work as your own, alter the files in any way, or remove/attempt to remove the copyright/watermarks
- *Share this product (part of it or in its entirety) with others
- *Repackage and /or sell or giveaway this product (part of it or in its entirety) to others
- *Offer or share this product (part of it or in its entirety) anywhere on the internet as a download or copy including, but not limited to, personal sites, school sites, or Google Doc links on blogs or sites, internet sharing groups, news lists, or shared databases
- *Make copies of purchased items to share with others is strictly forbidden and is a violation of the Terms of Use, along with copyright law.



Steve Hiles