



Truthfulness/Integrity

Values Branch – Step 6

Purpose

The 'Truthfulness/Integrity' step introduces the Trailman to the concept of always being trustworthy in what you say and do. Upon completion of this step Trailmen should understand the importance and practical application of this character trait.




1. What is truthfulness/integrity?
2. Why is truthfulness/integrity important in one's life?
3. When was there a time that your truthfulness/integrity was tested?
4. How can one's truthfulness/integrity be regained once it is lost?
5. How can your friends influence your truthfulness/integrity for the good or bad?

Notes to the Trail Guide //////////////////////////////////////

1. The goal is not for the boys to be experts at these topics, but to gain an increased knowledge and awareness of the Step.
2. Make it relative to your patrol.
3. Remember, these lessons should build from Fox to Hawk and from Hawk to Mountain Lion.
4. See the Leaders Guide for more information on Steps.

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Skills Progression

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Understand the difference between telling the truth and telling a lie.
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Understand how telling the truth affects our lives and the decisions we make.2. Choosing friends that are truthful.
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Telling the WHOLE truth2. Choosing friends who will hold you accountable to being truthful. Avoiding friends who lie.3. How our reputation is directly affected by our truthfulness

Helps

1. What is truthfulness/integrity?
 - a. **Goal:** To be able to understand better what truthfulness and integrity are through a story and or a song.
 - b. **Lesson:** Truthfulness: the truth or actual state of a matter; to tell the truth; freedom from deceit or falseness. Integrity: soundness of moral character; uncompromising adherence to moral principles (honesty).
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. **Abraham Lincoln story, "Six Pennies." Read and discuss.** Under free downloads at: www.characterfirsteducation.com/c/curriculum-detail/1951185
 - ii. Hawks / Mt. Lions – "Lion Story" (Honesty Nature Story), under "Videos" at website above
 - iii. Fox – "Honesty Song," under "Videos" at website above
2. Why is truthfulness/integrity important in one's life?
 - a. **Goal:** To learn and be able to talk about the effect that truthfulness and integrity have on every part of our lives.
 - b. **Lesson:** Discuss this as you are talking about the Abraham Lincoln story. Speaking and living truthfully is the basis for our character, how we live each day, our thinking, our values, and the words we use.
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. What can we do right now to develop truthfulness in our lives? Tell the truth – **Don't exaggerate** – Admit it when I am wrong – **Don't** cheat or take things that are not mine.
3. When was there a time that your truthfulness/integrity was tested?
 - a. **Goal:** To learn that we are all face tests in our lives—the important thing is how we respond.
 - b. **Lesson:** Think about and discuss when truthfulness was tested.
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. Trail Guide—tell about an example in your life.
 - ii. **Under "Scripture Ideas" look at** how Exodus defines lying, discuss.
4. How can one's truthfulness/integrity be regained once it is lost?
 - a. **Goal:** To be able to list the steps to forgiveness.
 - b. **Lesson:** Steps to forgiveness.
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. Admit when you did something wrong
 - ii. Ask their forgiveness
 - iii. Stop doing the wrong thing
 - iv. Start doing the right thing!
 - d. **Examples Activities:**
 - i. Read Proverbs 28:13 (see scripture section).
 - ii. Let the Trailmen each say the steps to forgiveness.

5. How can your friends influence your truthfulness/integrity for the good or bad?
- a. **Goal:** To understand the importance of choosing our friends wisely and having Godly friends
 - b. **Lesson:** Talk about influences of good and bad friends on the decisions we make.
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. Bad company ruins good morals (1 Corinthians 15:33).
 - ii. Walk with wise you will become wise/ walk with foolish will suffer harm (Proverbs 13:20).
 - iii. Leave the presence of a fool (Proverbs 14:7).

Activity Ideas

- See the relevant patrol and branch section of the activities.
- Or, create your own activity relevant to your troop and region.
- See idea below.
 - Good Friend/Bad Friend Chart
 - Fox - Make a chart with Trailmen suggestions and talk about it
 - Hawk/Mt. Lions - Have the Trailmen divide into small groups. Each group make a chart to present to class. Act out something a good or bad friend would do, see if others can guess what it is.

Game Ideas

- Check the games section online for game ideas.
- Or, create a game that works for your patrol.
- A couple ideas are listed below.
 - One-Handed Cotton Ball Game - To set up the game, you need one bowl filled with cotton balls, one plate, and one spoon per team. Each team member takes a turn scooping cotton balls to the plate. They must scoop two cotton balls on the plate for their turn to end. Trailmen must close their eyes, and they may not use their free hands. They will be tempted to look and use their free hands; do not correct the behavior because you will discuss how hard it was to show self-control. Whichever team transfers the most cotton balls in three minutes wins.
 - Simon Says - Explain to the children that if they do something wrong and are thus eliminated, they will have to sit down. Begin the game. After all of the children have been eliminated, explain how everyone has done wrong things and sinned. Explain to them that they can be forgiven and allow them to rejoin for a new game. After the second game, explain the Biblical concept of confession and forgiveness and how God will wipe away our sin, and give us a fresh start.

Scripture

Galatians 5:22-23

Proverbs 12:17, Honesty

Proverbs 12:19

Proverbs 12:22

Exodus 20:16, Lying

...Bearing false witness against our neighbor (9th commandment)

- Fox – Tell the truth
- Hawks – Be truthful in all you say and do
- Mt. Lions – Be truthful in all you say and do/ explain lies of omission (cover same overall topic with all groups)

Lies of omission – Not telling the whole truth. Omitting important facts. Giving truthful and full answers to questions. Making truthful and complete statements without omitting something you know to be important. Telling the whole story.

Proverbs 28:13

God will forgive our sins, if we confess to him and change our ways.

1 Peter 3:10

1 Corinthians 15:33

Proverbs 13:20

Proverbs 14:7

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