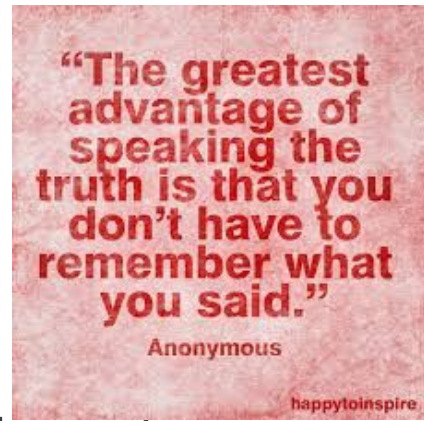




Honesty: How honest are we?



noun

1. the quality of being fair and truthful : the quality of being honest

"they spoke with convincing honesty about their fears"

synonyms: integrity, uprightness, honorableness, honor, morality, morals, ethics, principles, high principles, righteousness, right-mindedness;

*“I hope that I shall always possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the best of all titles - the character of an honest person.”*

*George Washington*



What does this quote mean to you? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Ethical Dilemma

1. Imagine that you found a paper bag at school containing just over \$300. Nobody saw you pick it up, and there was no identifying information on or in the bag. How would you handle this situation?

What would a person of strong character do? Why?



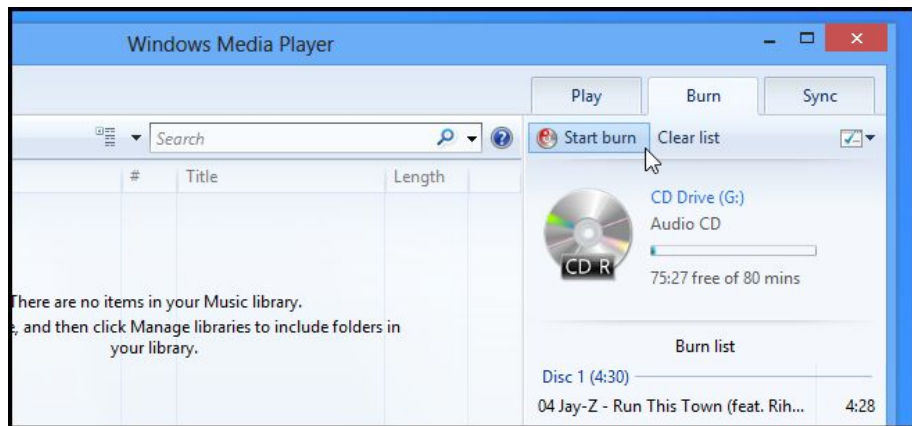
2. A very smart friend offered to let you cheat off of him/her for a big test. If you were somehow guaranteed that you wouldn't get caught, would you cheat? Why?

What would a person of strong character do? Why?



3. A really cool CD just came out and a friend of yours offered to burn you a copy on her computer. What would you do? Why?

What would a person of strong character do? Why?



**Teachers have reputations:** Discuss how students talk about teachers. Students know who's nice, who's tough and who really cares about students. This is called a **reputation** and students generally know the reputation of each teacher before they walk through their door on the first day of class.

## What is reputation?



## Character is a Reflection of:



- How a person treats other people
- Whether a person causes trouble or talks back
- The level of responsibility a person takes for him/her self
- The amount of effort a person puts forth
- The degree to which a person can be trusted





## Examples of a Positive Reputation

- “He’s a hard worker. If you give him an assignment, he’ll get it done.”
- “This student really applies herself. She’s going to be a success someday.”
- “He’s a good kid. You’re really going to like him.”
- “I can trust that student to do what she’s supposed to do.”



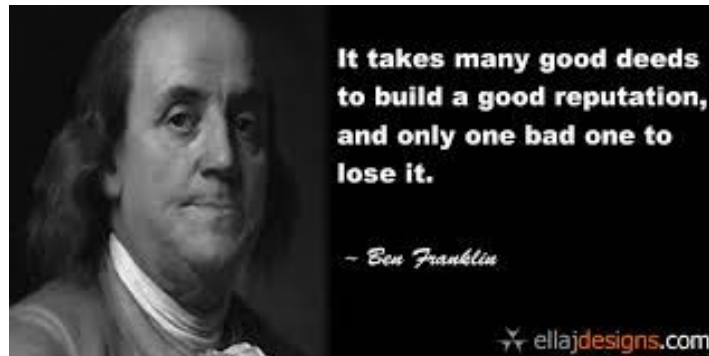
## Examples of a Negative Reputation

- “That student will look you right in the eye and lie to you. I wouldn’t trust her any farther than I could throw her.”
- “He’s got an excuse for everything. You can’t count on him.”
- “Watch out for this one, she’s a trouble-maker. She will disrupt your class day in and day out.”
- “It’s too bad. This kid has the brains, but he doesn’t apply himself.”



## Steps to Build a Positive Reputation

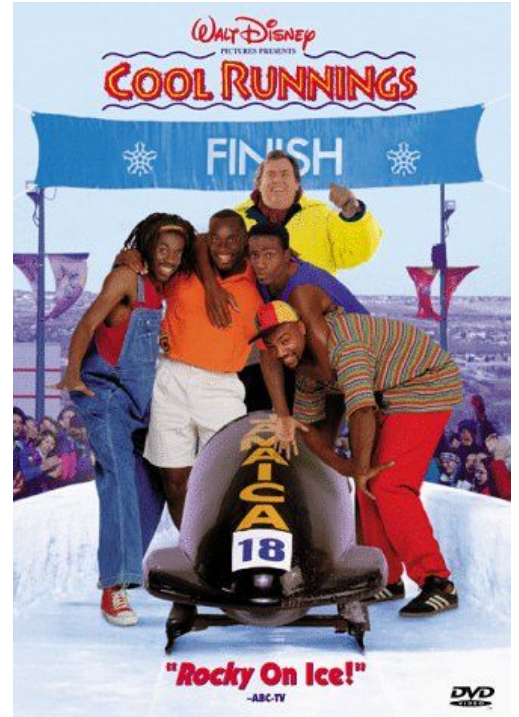
- Acknowledge and admit to your faults, poor choices and/or bad behavior
- Sincerely apologize for the past
- Make pledges to change for the better
- Consistently live up to your word



"If you're not enough without it,  
you'll never be enough with it."

Background:

Inspired by a true story, four Jamaican athletes defy the odds by trying to make the Winter Olympics in the bobsled competition. They quickly learn that it takes more than ability, desire, or willpower to become world-class bobsledders. It also takes a coach. Unfortunately, the one they get has a dark secret - he once cheated. The question is why.



## The Lion King: Graveyard Scene

*TRUSTWORTHINESS (Be honest; Don't deceive, cheat or steal; Be reliable --do what you say you'll do; Have the courage to do the right thing; Build a good reputation; Be loyal -- stand by your family, friends and country)*

*1. When Simba snuck off to the elephant graveyard, he lied to his mother about where he was taking Nala. What did this lie almost cost Simba and Nala? By lying, what did Simba not have that a young lion could have used?*



*2. Evaluate Nala's role in the trip to the elephant graveyard.*

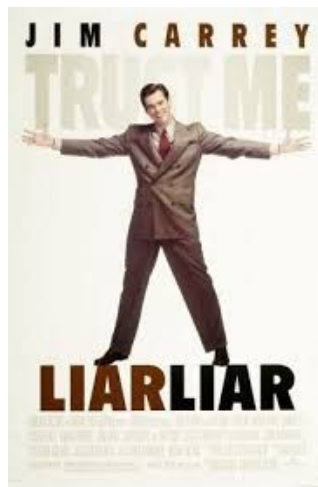
## The Lion King: Hakuna Matata Scene

**RESPONSIBILITY** (Do what you are supposed to do; Persevere: keep on trying!; Always do your best; Use self-control; Be self-disciplined; Think before you act -- consider the consequences; Be accountable for your choices)

2. What do you think of "hakuna matata" as a philosophy of life?  
By the end of the film did anyone live by that credo?



## Liar Liar



Theme: White Lies

Film: Liar Liar

(PG-13) 2:09

*A young son makes a birthday wish that his father, a chronic liar, must tell the truth for twenty-four hours. Thanks to a bit of magic, his wish comes true. When his father arrives at work the next morning, he greets his fellow employees as usual, only this time he is brutally honest in his opinions of them. It does not take long before this liar-turned-truth-teller finds himself begging his son to take back the wish!*

*This 1997 film from MCA/Universal Pictures is directed by Tom Shadyac and written by Paul Guay, and Stephen Mazur. It is produced by Brian Grazer and stars Jim Carrey, Justin Cooper, and Maura Tierney*

*Teaser Question: Are "white lies" okay? Why? Why not?*

*Going Deeper: With which character do you relate? Have you told a lie to save someone you know from being hurt by the truth?*

*Making Choices: You have promised your parents you won't do drugs, but today your friend pressures you into smoking marijuana. What do you tell her?*

*"Each time you are honest and conduct yourself with honesty, a success force will drive you toward greater success. Each time you lie, even with a little white lie, there are strong forces pushing you toward failure." —Joseph Sugarman*

*"Oh, what a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive!" —Sir Walter Scott*





# Big Fat Liar

*We all know the story: You don't have your homework because your dog ate it. Jason Shepherd (Frankie Muniz) can spin a tall tale the likes of which are rarely seen on planet earth. His penchant for telling a lie to get out of a hole gets him in big trouble with those who want to trust a boy who hasn't yet figured out that honesty is the best policy.*

*This 2002 film from Universal Pictures is directed by Shawn Levy and written by Dan Schneider and Brian Robbins. It is produced by Marie Cantin, Michael Goldman, Brian Robbins, and Michael Tollin and stars Paul Giamatti, Frankie Muniz, Amanda Bynes, Michael Bryan French, and Christine Tucci.*



*Teaser Question: What makes a person trustworthy?*

*Going Deeper: How can a person who has a history of lying regain the trust of others? Have you ever been caught lying and not known how to break the pattern? Who could you talk to about this?*

*Making Choices: You witness a friend telling lies to his/her parents and teacher. What do you do?*

*A friend who usually tells the truth tells you a story that is so incredible it is hard to believe. Another friend, who often lies, tells another version of the story which seems more normal and credible. Who do you believe? Why?*

*"It is hard to believe that a man is telling the truth when you know that you would lie if you were in his place."*

*—H.L. Mencken*

*"During times of universal deceit, telling the truth becomes a revolutionary act." —George Orwell*

