

***SPIRIT OF AMERICA***  
**FILM CLIPS FOR CHARACTER EDUCATION**

**USAGE and COMMENT LOG**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Which Clip(s) Were Used (Honesty, Respect, Bullying Prevention, etc)</b>	<b>Where Were Clip(s) Used? (advisor-advisee program, classroom, special program, etc)</b>	<b>When Were Clip(s) Used? (part of regular program, to deal with a special problem, etc)</b>	<b>How Useful Were Clip(s)? (easy to use, engaged students, appropriate, relevant, etc)</b>
1/16/08-1/18/08	<p><b>DAY 1 Episode 2 –</b>  <b>Clips:</b> <i>The Mighty Ducks, Charlotte’s Web, Forrest Gump, Jimmy Neutron</i></p> <p><b>DAY 2 Episode 4 –</b>  <b>Clips:</b> <i>Dead Poet’s Society, Mean Girls, A Christmas Story, Cheaper by the Dozen</i></p>	ELA – 8 <sup>th</sup> grade (*2 inclusion classes)	Character Education – a continuation from our “Mix It Up Day” activities in November. Students were given EXIT cards in November, and based on student concerns/topics of student interest, the episodes were selected.	<p><b>Teacher Perspective:</b>  Resources were EXTREMELY useful! There was more than enough information. I selected the Word Wall idea – putting the terms on a slide show in Power Point, that way students had a common vocabulary. I also students journal and discuss the questions shown after the clips. The “Going Deeper” questions were great resources for homework questions and classroom discussions.</p> <p><b>Student Perspective:</b> On the last day of viewing the</p>

				<p>clips, students were given an evaluation form from our guidance counselor, Ms. Macchi. The questions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Did you like the activity?</li> <li>❖ Were the clips relevant to the themes and questions we discussed?</li> <li>❖ Which film clip was your favorite and why?</li> </ul> <p>**Below you will see some student responses:</p>
<b>STUDENT PERSPECTIVE</b>	❖ Did you like the activity?	❖ Were the clips relevant to the themes and questions we discussed?	❖ Which film clip was your favorite and why?	
	<b>“I enjoyed this because we were able to talk about things that happen to us everyday with friends.”</b>	<b>“Yes, they were. The clips were perfect representations of the values and questions.”</b>	<b>“I liked ‘A Christmas Story.’ It’s funny but at the same time shows you what happens with dares sometimes.”</b>	
	<b>“It was pretty cool –</b>	<b>“The clips made sense to</b>	<b>“I liked ‘Mean Girls’</b>	

	it's better then just talking about it. We got to see examples.”	me and I enjoyed answering the questions.”	because I like the movie and it's true – some friends/groups have certain rules.”	
	“I liked this activity because we are allowed to make our own decisions about values, not just told what values are.”	“Yes they all showed these things in life.”	“I liked ‘Dead Poet’s Society’ because it was original and funny.”	

**Please Feel Free to Reproduce This Usage and Comment Log As Needed**

What advice would you offer the producers of the *Spirit of America Film Clips for Character Education* program to make the materials even more user-friendly and/or educationally effective?

I LOVE the program. As an educator I’ve struggled to find the perfect fit for ‘teaching’ character education with my 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. I think I have found it! It engages the students. It brought about some great conversations/discussions with my students and I think we were able to problem solve and come up with solutions with problems my students face on a daily basis.

I would say that in order to use the program effectively, the classroom environment needs to be one of respect – respect for others and others’ opinions.

I would like our school to develop a 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade model: selecting topics/clips appropriate for each age/grade level. That way clips are not overused (each year).