

GRADE 6-12 LESSON PLAN

THE OKLAHOMA STANDARD: VALUES OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP

What does it mean to be a good citizen? What do Service, Honor, and Kindness really mean? How can we best exemplify the Oklahoma Standard in our daily lives? This lesson plan aims to answer these questions.

BACKGROUND

The Oklahoma Standard was born out of the overwhelming community response to the Oklahoma City bombing on April 19, 1995. It lives on today as the model by which Oklahomans live their lives in response to the needs of their neighbors, fellow citizens, and communities. The foundation and significance of the Oklahoma Standard are its core values—**Service**, **Honor**, and **Kindness**.

Through continued awareness, education, and the preservation of these values, the Oklahoma Standard unites the people of Oklahoma to build a bright future of caring citizens who actively serve the community, honor the past, and demonstrate kindness.

LESSON SUMMARY

Students will participate in discussions and activities designed to show them what Service, Honor, and Kindness look like in their daily lives.

Time Frame

1 class period

Subjects

Social Studies, Oklahoma History
United States History, World History

RESOURCES

Available to download at
OklahomaStandard.com/TakeAction

- Pledge Cards (Printable)
- Posters (Printable)

For more information on the history of the Oklahoma Standard, visit
OklahomaStandard.com/About

Essential Questions

- What does it mean to be a good citizen?
- What do Service, Honor, and Kindness really mean?
- How can we best exemplify the Oklahoma Standard in our daily lives?

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1. Review the background of the Oklahoma Standard.

- What was unique about the response to the April 19, 1995, tragedy?
- What are some other challenges or tragedies throughout our state or nation's history where the community has come together and supported one another?

2. What does it mean to be a good citizen?

- Discuss the importance (i.e. rule following, voting, helping others) of being a good citizen and contributing to society.
- What does it mean to be a "good citizen" at school, home, or in a group (sports team, clubs, etc.)?
- What are adjectives you would use to describe someone who is a "good citizen" and exhibits what we call "civic virtue?"
- As an older student, what are some of the ways you are able to step up as a role model and exhibit these qualities?

3. What do Service, Honor and Kindness mean?

- Why are they important?

4. When have you been a good citizen by demonstrating Service, Honor, or Kindness?

- What difference did it make?
- How does it make you feel when others demonstrate these values toward you? Provide some examples.

5. What are some other tragedies or injustices in our world these days?

- Is it the role of the American government to help fellow citizens out during these times? Why or why not?
- What can we do as citizens to help?
- How can we help if we don't live near where the tragedy occurred?

6. What are some things that we can do daily to make a positive difference in this world?

- What about in your own school or community?

7. How can we share these values and encourage others to do the same (i.e. posters, social media, word of mouth)?

8. Challenge students to **Take Action** in their school and community. What are some **Take Action** ideas that you have?

9. Have students fill out Pledge Cards showing how they will commit to the Oklahoma Standard. Display in the classroom or a hallway in school.

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TAKE ACTION IDEAS

Show up to serve.

- Volunteer at the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon.
- Plan a community service project with your friends.
- Volunteer to tutor students who need help in your favorite subject.
- Fix and serve meals for those in need.
- Spend the day giving back to your school.
- Volunteer at a local hospital or senior center.
- Help pick up trash at your neighborhood park.

Rise up to honor.

- Visit the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum with your friends.
- Experience the stories of *those who were killed, those who survived and those changed forever* by touring the Memorial and Museum.
- Browse more than one million documents, artifacts & photographs from the events surrounding April 19, 1995, in the Memorial Archives.
- Walk the Memorial, a place of quiet reflection, healing and hope.
- Thank a veteran or active military member for their service.
- Thank a public servant for their commitment to making the community better.
- Drive with your car lights on at all times each year during the week of April 19.

Step up to be kind.

- Be kind in all situations, big or small.
- Smile at every person you see today.
- Say thank you and express gratitude for even the small things.
- Hold the door open for the person behind you.
- Offer to share your lunch with a classmate.
- Donate items to a local charity.
- Pay for the food of the person behind you in the drive-through.

EXAMPLES OF THE OKLAHOMA STANDARD FOLLOWING THE BOMBING AND TODAY

- 9,000 volunteers signed up with Red Cross to assist with relief services, including serving 193,300 meals to rescue workers.
- \$49 million was donated to United Way agencies within a year to assist survivors and family members.
- Food, batteries, boots, gloves and anything else that was needed was provided to help with rescue and recovery efforts.
- \$17 million was raised through private funds to help build the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum.
- \$450,000 was raised by kids through the 168 penny campaign to help build the Memorial Museum.
- Thousands of cards and letters of support were created by kids and sent to survivors, family members and first responders.
- Millions of dollars have been contributed to the Memorial and Museum since 2001, through the Memorial's largest fundraiser, the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon.
- Nearly 25,000 runners participated in the 2019 Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon's *Run to Remember* to honor *those who were killed, those who survived and those changed forever*.
- 3,000+ volunteers donate their time to help in the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon annually.