

# Culture School



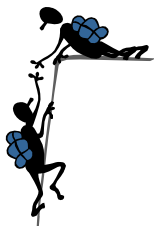
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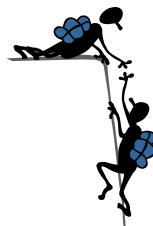
# Cañon Exploratory



# School



## Cañon Exploratory School Culture

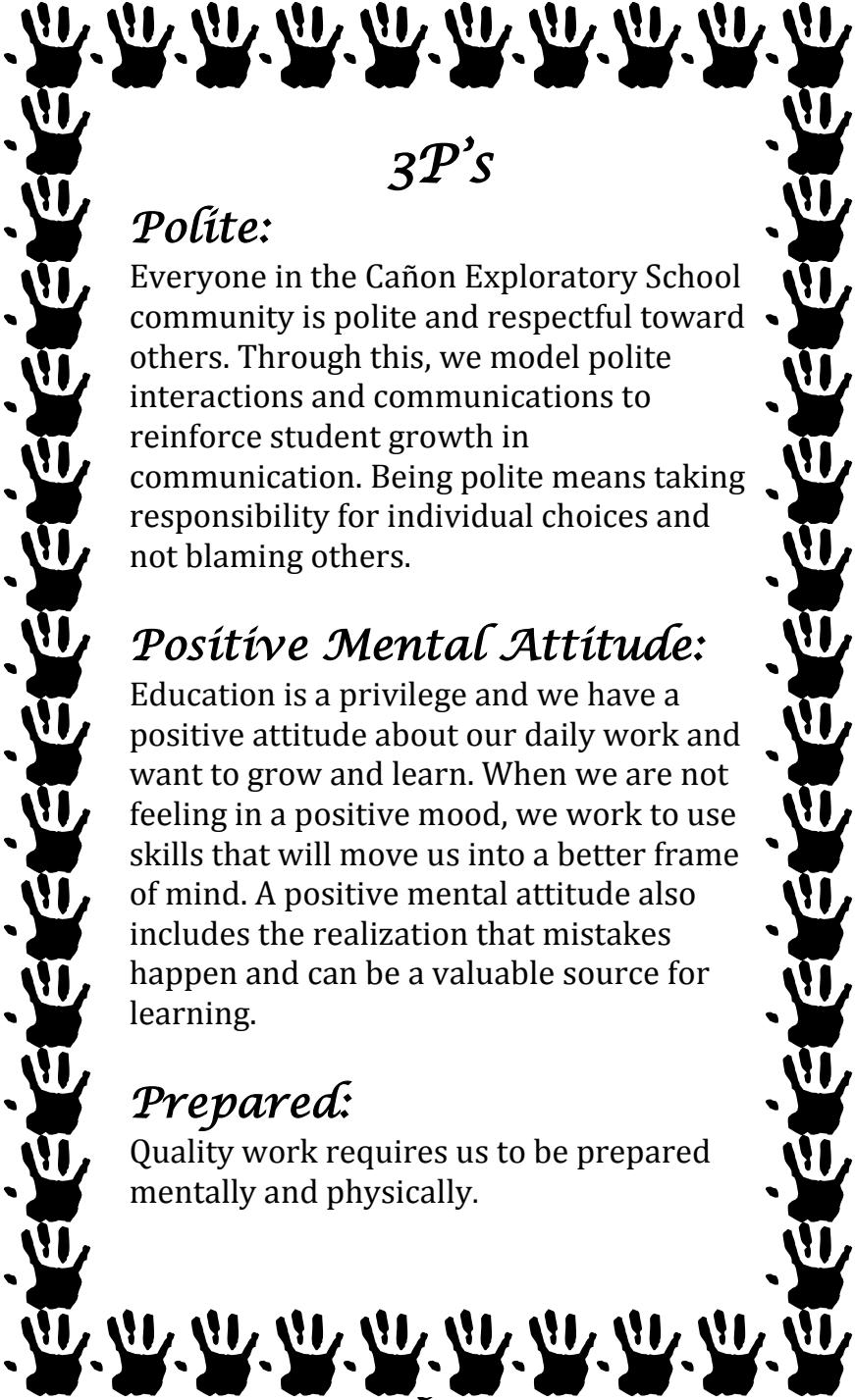


The Exploratory School concept began in 1992 when Molly Merry wrote a grant for funding through the Colorado Department of Education. From the beginning, this school's mission has been to create an environment where each child can meet his/her greatest potential in their education. We have experienced changes in curriculum, staff and even location yet the basic philosophy of educating the whole child has remained firm.

To continue our growth and commitment to our mission, we have adopted educational practices that blend to create a clearly defined school culture. Research has discovered schools with a strong community culture are at an advantage in student motivation and achievement. (Leadership for School Culture. ERIC Digest, Number 91)

We have developed a visual model of our culture which encompasses the features of the school that creates this culture, and will be taught to all students. This program is not about student discipline, rather, it is to create ways of being so students can feel safe, happy and healthy while putting their efforts into learning and growing.

As parents, you are a critical part of our school culture. We all know the more consistency children have in adult modeling, the more they will understand and practice the ideas and skills.



## *3P's*

### *Polite:*

Everyone in the Cañon Exploratory School community is polite and respectful toward others. Through this, we model polite interactions and communications to reinforce student growth in communication. Being polite means taking responsibility for individual choices and not blaming others.

### *Positive Mental Attitude:*

Education is a privilege and we have a positive attitude about our daily work and want to grow and learn. When we are not feeling in a positive mood, we work to use skills that will move us into a better frame of mind. A positive mental attitude also includes the realization that mistakes happen and can be a valuable source for learning.

### *Prepared:*

Quality work requires us to be prepared mentally and physically.

## **QUALITY WORK**

Cañon Exploratory School follows the Quality Schools theory of Dr. William Glasser.



1. Strong supportive classroom and school environment
2. Useful work
3. Each person does their best
4. Everyone evaluates their work and makes continuous improvements
5. Quality work feels good
6. Quality work is never destructive

Students are expected to achieve at 80% or better to demonstrate proficiency. If a student does not demonstrate 80%, they will be re-taught and given opportunities to improve their performance.

An 80% achievement demonstrates student knowledge, skills, and understandings.

Occasionally a student does not perform at 80% due to work habits and choosing not to turn in his/her work. This issue should be discussed in conference to determine a plan which will

encourage the student's responsibility and accountability for his/her work. Students must develop quality work habits in organization, turning in work, time management, prioritizing, and asking for help when needed. These are skills they will use throughout school and into their chosen career.

# Together We Make a Difference

Cañon Exploratory School is a multi-age school. We are a community which learns and works together, respecting our differences and helping each other. To reinforce this philosophy we do the following:

- ✎ Communication circles: once a week on Friday mornings our students will participate in multi-age communication circles. This will last about 15-20 minutes. The purpose of these circles is to facilitate the communication skills of listening, eye-contact, speaking clearly, and self-expression.
- ✎ Opportunities for partner and group projects
- ✎ Teacher collaboration in professional work
- ✎ Parent training and classes on school culture, the Overindulged Child, Choice Theory, Multiple Intelligences, and Project Based Learning
- ✎ School Community Social Events



# Healthy Choices

Choice Theory was developed for use in a school setting by Dr. William Glasser. Choice Theory states that:

1. The only behavior we can control is our own.
2. All we can give to others or get from others is information.
3. All choices are made to fulfill human needs for any of the following: fun, freedom, power, belonging, or love.
4. For every choice a reality follows.

At Cañon Exploratory School we want students to understand they control their choices and to take responsibility for the reality which follows. We work with students to teach them the thinking processes involved in making healthy choices and analyzing potential consequences. This eliminates the need for traditional 'discipline' and the teacher as manager. The school becomes a community of individuals, each responsible for their contribution and choices. The environment becomes one of personal responsibility rather than rules.

Glasser, W. (1998). *Choice Theory: A new psychology of personal freedom*. New York: HaperCollins Publishers.

Glasser, W. (1992). *The Quality School: Managing Students without coercion*. New York: HarperPerennial.



**Queen/King:** I like to be in charge so I make unhealthy choices that hurt relationships.

- I want relationships to make me feel important.
- I don't care if I hurt other peoples' feelings.
- I think I am more important than others.
- I will argue to get whatever I want and to get others on my side.
- I am selfish.



**Gossip:** I talk about other people even when I know it will hurt them.

- I talk about others so I feel more important and close to my friends.
- I spread rumors.
- I start a conversation with "Don't tell anyone else, but..."
- I want people to trust me and tell me their secrets, but then I go and tell someone else.



**Bystander:** I watch other people act mean and I don't do much about it.



- I am afraid of being excluded by the Queen/King, so I just watch.
- I don't stand up for the person being hurt.
- I know what is going on is wrong, but I am not brave enough to stop it.
- I don't even stand up for myself.

**Target:** I let others treat me badly because I don't think I am good enough & I get attention.

- I feel excluded from the 'popular' kids.
- I feel hurt and rejected.
- I just want to fit in.
- I don't stand up for myself.



**Empowered:** I know how to have healthy relationships with all kinds of people.



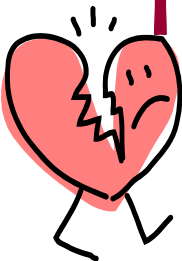
- I stand up for myself.
- I stand up for others.
- I include everyone.
- I forgive people who hurt my feelings.
- I make healthy relationship choices.
- I meet my needs without hurting others.

# Our Relationship Habits

## Deadly Habits

(Hurt Relationships)

Criticizing  
Blaming  
Complaining  
Nagging  
Threatening  
Punishing  
Bribing



# Caring Habits

(Help Relationships)



Listening  
Supporting  
Encouraging  
Respecting  
Trusting  
Accepting  
Negotiating



**Which Habits do you  
use?**



## Cañon Exploratory School Kindergarten Culture



Goal	Quality	Needs Improvement
<b>Prepared</b>	<p>I am always ready for school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I went to bed early.</li> <li>• I ate a good breakfast.</li> <li>• I have all my supplies and papers.</li> <li>• I listen and make eye-contact.</li> <li>• I did my homework.</li> </ul>	<p>I need to improve on being ready for school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I am tired.</li> <li>• I didn't eat breakfast.</li> <li>• I forgot supplies and papers.</li> <li>• I don't listen so I don't know what to do.</li> <li>• I didn't do my homework.</li> </ul>
<b>Polite</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I am always happy.</li> <li>• I say nice things to people.</li> <li>• I use my manners.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I am sometimes grouchy.</li> <li>• I say rude things or ignore people.</li> <li>• I often forget to use my manners.</li> </ul>
<b>Positive Mental Attitude</b>	<p>I look forward to everything we do in school, even if it isn't my favorite.</p>	<p>I get grouchy when I have to do something I don't want to do.</p>
<b>Together We Make a Difference</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I work well with everyone.</li> <li>• I have good sharing skills.</li> <li>• I offer help to others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I don't work with others.</li> <li>• I don't like to share.</li> <li>• I don't help others.</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Choices</b>	<p>I make choices which keep me healthy and protect my learning.</p>	<p>I make choices which get in the way with being healthy and learning.</p>
<b>Quality Work-Show Your Best</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I make sure to put all my effort into doing my best.</li> <li>• I always turn in my work.</li> <li>• I take my time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I get distracted and don't put all my effort into doing my best work.</li> <li>• I don't turn in all my work.</li> <li>• I hurry through my work.</li> </ul>
<b>Relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have relationships with everyone at school.</li> <li>• I am friendly and kind to everyone.</li> <li>• No one is afraid of me.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I hang out with a few of the other kids.</li> <li>• I say mean things or gossip about other people.</li> <li>• Some kids are afraid of me or don't trust me.</li> </ul>

In Kindergarten I am learning to take better care of myself and do more things for myself. I am learning to take responsibility for my work at school and at home. I am learning to work in a place where there are lots of people.



# Cañon Exploratory School

## 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Culture

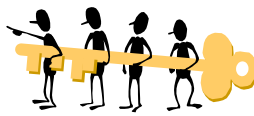


Goal	Proficient	Needs Improvement
<b>Prepared</b>	<p>I am always ready for school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I went to bed early.</li> <li>• I ate a good breakfast.</li> <li>• I have all my supplies and papers.</li> <li>• I listen and make eye-contact.</li> </ul>	<p>I need to improve on being ready for school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I am tired.</li> <li>• I didn't eat breakfast.</li> <li>• I forgot supplies and papers.</li> <li>• I don't listen so I don't know what to do.</li> </ul>
<b>Polite</b>	I am always happy and say nice things to people.	I am sometimes grouchy and say rude things or ignore people.
<b>Positive Mental Attitude</b>	I look forward to everything we do in school, even if it isn't my favorite.	I get grouchy when I have to do something I don't want to do.
<b>Together We Make a Difference</b>	I work well with everyone and have good sharing skills.	I don't like to work with others, I want my way.
<b>Healthy Choices</b>	I make choices that keep me healthy and protect my learning.	I make choices that get in the way with being healthy and learning.
<b>Quality Work-Show Your Best</b>	I make sure to put all my effort into doing my best. I always turn in all my work.	I get distracted and hurry through my work, or I don't turn in my work.
<b>Relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have relationships with everyone at school.</li> <li>• I am friendly and kind to everyone.</li> <li>• No one is afraid of me.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I hang out with a few of the other kids.</li> <li>• I say mean things or gossip about other people.</li> <li>• Some kids are afraid of me or don't trust me.</li> </ul>

In first and second grade I am learning to take better care of myself and do more things for myself. I am learning to take responsibility for my work at school and at home. I am learning to work in a place where there are lots of people.



## Cañon Exploratory School 3rd & 4th Grade Culture

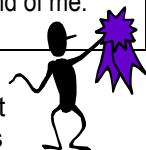


Goal	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement
<b>Prepared</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I always have my materials ready to bring to school.</li> <li>I am always ready in the classroom. I am looking at my teacher and ignoring distractions.</li> <li>I have had enough sleep and a good breakfast.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have my materials ready to bring to school most of the time.</li> <li>I am usually ready in the classroom. I sometimes get distracted by other kids or things.</li> <li>I sometimes come to school sleepy and without breakfast.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I rarely have my materials and school supplies. I have to borrow from other kids or my teacher.</li> <li>I can't find my supplies in the classroom. I am talking to other kids or playing with things. My teacher has to remind me to pay attention.</li> <li>I come to school sleepy and without breakfast.</li> </ul>
<b>Polite</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I always smile and have a polite greeting for everyone.</li> <li>I use my best manners.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I usually smile and greet people.</li> <li>I sometimes forget my manners.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I don't say hello or smile at other people.</li> <li>I don't use manners at school.</li> </ul>
<b>Positive Mental Attitude</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I always have a good attitude about school, even when work is hard, or I am having a problem.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I usually have a good attitude about school. Sometimes I act grouchy and complain.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I complain a lot and don't want to work at school. I act tired and bored.</li> </ul>
<b>Together We Make a Difference</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I work well with everyone.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I work well with others most of the time. Sometimes I leave people out or won't work with a group.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I don't like to work with others. I tease others, or blame others for my problems. I care more about me than the school.</li> </ul>

## Continued

Goal	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement
<b>Healthy Choices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I always make choices that are healthy for me and for the school community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I usually make choices that are healthy for me and the school community. Sometimes I don't consider consequences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I make many unhealthy choices that hurt me and the school community.</li> </ul>
<b>Quality-Show Your Best</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I always demonstrate my best: on paper, and in my behavior and attitude. I never have to redo work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I usually demonstrate my best: on paper and in my behavior and attitude. I sometimes have to redo work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I don't do my best or don't turn in my work. I act like school isn't important. I have to redo work often.</li> </ul>
<b>Multiple Intelligences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I know all the ways of being smart and I work in each of those ways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I know the ways of being smart, but I don't like to work in some of the ways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I complain about working in any intelligence but my best way and what is easiest.</li> </ul>
<b>Relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have healthy relationships with everyone at school.</li> <li>I am friendly and kind to everyone.</li> <li>I make sure to include kids who are sometimes left out.</li> <li>No one is afraid of me.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have relationships with many of the kids at school.</li> <li>I am friendly and kind most of the time.</li> <li>I sometimes include kids who are left out.</li> <li>Some of the little kids might not be comfortable around me.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I hang out with very few kids and am only friendly to my group.</li> <li>I gossip about other kids.</li> <li>I hang out alone or never include other kids.</li> <li>I am bossy and/or other kids are afraid of me.</li> </ul>

In third and fourth grade I am becoming more self-directed and responsible. I take care of my belongings better. I do not need teacher re-direction as often. I show concern for others and the building and will help out without being asked.





## Cañon Exploratory School 5th & 6th Grade Culture



Goal	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement
<b>Prepared</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I always have my supplies and materials ready to bring to school. I give my parents lots of advance notice when I need new supplies.</li> <li>I am always ready in the classroom, my desk is organized and I am listening to instruction. I help others stay focused on their responsibilities.</li> <li>I have had a good night's sleep and a good breakfast.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I usually have my supplies and materials ready to bring to school.</li> <li>I am usually ready in the classroom. My desk could be more organized.</li> <li>I usually get a good night's sleep and have breakfast.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I come to school without supplies or materials I need. I neglect to let my parents know I need new supplies.</li> <li>I am not ready for instruction in the classroom. My desk is a mess and I can't find what I need.</li> <li>I don't get enough sleep, and I don't have a good breakfast. Sometimes I skip breakfast.</li> </ul>
<b>Polite</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I smile and have a polite greeting for everyone.</li> <li>I always use my best manners.</li> <li>I am always a good example for other students.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I usually smile and say hello to people.</li> <li>I usually use my best manners.</li> <li>I am usually a good example for other students.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I don't always smile and sometimes I ignore people.</li> <li>I don't use my best manners, and sometimes I purposely do rude things.</li> <li>I am not a good example for other students.</li> </ul>
<b>Multiple Intelligences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I know the eight intelligences and I work to improve in all of them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I know the eight intelligences, but I don't always like to work in all of them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I don't know all the intelligences and I don't like working in areas outside of my best intelligence.</li> </ul>
<b>Positive Mental Attitude</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I always appreciate being at school and having the opportunity to learn.</li> <li>I respond positively when I am asked to help out in class or in the building, and even help without being asked.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I usually appreciate being at school and the learning activities.</li> <li>I help out when asked, but don't think to volunteer. I am not always happy about helping.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I complain about learning activities.</li> <li>I roll my eyes or grumble when I have to do something I don't like.</li> <li>I don't help out, and complain when asked.</li> </ul>



## Continued

<b>Together We Make a Difference</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I always work well with everyone and recognize their unique contribution to our school.</li> <li>• I can put the good of the group ahead of my own needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I usually work well with everyone.</li> <li>• I can sacrifice what I want for the group, but I don't like it.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I don't like to work with certain people. I tease others or blame them for my problems.</li> <li>• I want my way ahead of what is good for the group.</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Choices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I know I am responsible for my choices and accept responsibility. I learn from my mistakes.</li> <li>• I understand how my choices affect others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I know I am responsible for my choices, but I don't always take responsibility or learn from my mistakes.</li> <li>• I don't always think about how my choices affect others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I make excuses for my choices and do not take responsibility.</li> <li>• I don't ever think about how my choices affect others.</li> </ul>
<b>Quality Work-Show Your Best</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I always demonstrate my best in my schoolwork and behavior.</li> <li>• I set goals to make continuing improvements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I usually demonstrate my best in schoolwork and behavior. I know I could do better and I am sometimes lazy.</li> <li>• I sometimes set a goal to improve.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I don't do my best and I know it. I don't always turn in my work. I am in a hurry to socialize or do something else.</li> <li>• I don't think about setting goals.</li> </ul>
<b>Relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have healthy relationships with everyone at school</li> <li>• I am friendly, kind &amp; helpful to everyone</li> <li>• I include kids who are sometimes left out</li> <li>• No one is afraid of me</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have relationships with many of the kids at school.</li> <li>• I am friendly &amp; kind most of the time.</li> <li>• I sometimes include kids who are left out.</li> <li>• Some of the little kids might not be comfortable around me.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I hang out with my 'group' only .</li> <li>• I am friendly only to my group, but I might have fights with them.</li> <li>• I gossip and make fun of the other kids.</li> <li>• I see other kids being mean and I don't help.</li> <li>• I hang out alone.</li> <li>• I like other kids to be afraid of me.</li> <li>• I am bossy.</li> </ul>

In fifth and sixth grade, I am moving from being self-centered to having a greater concern about the school as a community. I actively participate in providing services in the building that help support the culture. Examples are Safety Peer Mediation, School Store, custodial and lunch helpers, helping teachers, and peer role modeling.



## Cañon Exploratory School Middle School Culture



In seventh and eighth grade, I am learning to be independent and self-directed to prepare me for high school and beyond. Much of when and how my work is completed is left to me to decide as long as I meet deadlines set by the teacher. I actively participate in community service both inside and outside of the school day. Community Service can include volunteering, tutoring, assisting the custodians, and mentoring the younger children of our building.

Goal	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement
<b>Prepared</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I always have my supplies and material ready to bring to school.</li> <li>I have my homework completed and ready to turn in first thing in the morning.</li> <li>I am always "On My Mark" for each class as defined by the teacher's expectations that are posted in each room.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I usually have my supplies and materials ready to bring to school.</li> <li>I almost always have my homework completed and ready to turn in first things in the morning.</li> <li>I usually am "On My Mark" for each class.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I come to school without supplies or material needed.</li> <li>I often have not completed my homework and am not ready to turn it in in the morning.</li> <li>I seldom am "On My Mark" for each of my classes.</li> </ul>
<b>Polite</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I treat others respectfully.</li> <li>I am kind.</li> <li>I always use good manners.</li> <li>I am a good example to others of how to treat people well.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I usually treat other respectfully.</li> <li>I am usually kind.</li> <li>I usually have good manners.</li> <li>I usually am a good example of how to treat others well.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I am often disrespectful.</li> <li>I am often unkind.</li> <li>I don't always use good manners.</li> <li>I am not usually a good example of how to treat others.</li> </ul>
<b>Multiple Intelligences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I know the eight intelligences and I work to improve in all of them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I know the eight intelligences, but I don't always like to work in all of them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I don't know all the intelligences and I don't like working in areas outside of my best intelligence.</li> </ul>
<b>Positive Mental Attitude</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I always appreciate being at school and having the opportunity to learn.</li> <li>I respond positively when I am asked to help out in class or in the building, and even help without being asked.</li> <li>I embrace new learning opportunities and experiences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I usually appreciate being at school and having the opportunity to learn.</li> <li>I help out when asked, but don't think to volunteer. I am not always happy about helping.</li> <li>I usually embrace new learning opportunities and experiences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I complain about learning activities.</li> <li>I complain or resist when I am asked to help.</li> <li>I complain, roll my eyes, or grumble when faced with new learning opportunities and experiences.</li> </ul>

<b>Together We Make a Difference</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I always work well with everyone and recognize their unique contribution to our school.</li> <li>• I can put the good of the group ahead of my own needs.</li> <li>• I look for and embrace opportunities to be a leader to the younger kids in our building.</li> <li>• I participate in Community Service activities outside of school hours.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I usually work well with everyone.</li> <li>• I can sacrifice what I want for the group, but I don't like it.</li> <li>• I will be a leader in the building but I don't really like to.</li> <li>• I participate in Community Service activities if they are scheduled during school time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I don't like to work with others and either prefer to work alone or just like working with my friends.</li> <li>• I only want my own way and not what others want.</li> <li>• I refuse to be a leader in the building.</li> <li>• I do not participate in Community Service willingly.</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Choices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I know I am responsible for my choices and accept responsibility. I learn from my mistakes.</li> <li>• I understand how my choices affect others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I know I am responsible for my choice but don't always take responsibility or learn from my mistakes.</li> <li>• I don't always think about how my choices affect others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I make excuses for my choices and do not take responsibility.</li> <li>• I don't ever think about how my choices affect others.</li> </ul>
<b>Quality Work-Show Your Best</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I always demonstrate my best in my schoolwork and behavior.</li> <li>• I set goals to make continuing improvements.</li> <li>• I complete all of my homework and meet deadlines on time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I usually demonstrate my best in my schoolwork and behavior.</li> <li>• I sometimes set goals to make continuing improvements.</li> <li>• I don't always complete all of my homework and meet deadlines on time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I don't do my best and I know it. I am in a hurry to socialize or do something else.</li> <li>• I don't set goals to make continuing improvements.</li> <li>• I don't complete a lot of homework and meet deadlines on time.</li> </ul>
<b>Relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have healthy relationships with everyone at school.</li> <li>• I am friendly, kind &amp; helpful to everyone.</li> <li>• I include kids who are sometimes left out.</li> <li>• No one is afraid of me.</li> <li>• I understand that middle school is not the place for dating and romance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have healthy relationships with many of the kids at school.</li> <li>• I am friendly, kind &amp; helpful most of the time.</li> <li>• I sometime include kids who are left out.</li> <li>• Some of the little kids are afraid of me.</li> <li>• I sometimes talk about dating and romance at school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I only hang out with my friends.</li> <li>• I am only friendly to my friends but some sometimes we fight.</li> <li>• I include kids who are sometimes left out.</li> <li>• I gossip and make fun of other kids.</li> <li>• I hang out alone.</li> <li>• I like to intimidate others.</li> <li>• I openly talk about and participate in dating and romance at school.</li> </ul>

## ***CAÑON EXPLORATORY LANGUAGE***

***SHARK ATTACK*** - When students crowd around someone to ask a question.

***CATCH YOUR OWN FISH-I WON'T GIVE YOU THE FISH*** - We use these expressions to explain to students that we won't give them the answers, but expect them to use their skills to find answers and solve problems for themselves.

***UNDERSTANDABLE, NOT EXCUSABLE*** - We understand the problem and will help think of solutions, but the behavior is not excused.

***IS THAT YOUR PROBLEM OR MY PROBLEM*** - This is to get kids to realize they have the resources to solve problems and not to expect their problems to become problems for others.

***PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY*** - Students understand they are responsible for their choices.

***ABOVE THE LINE*** - Behavior that shows personal responsibility.

***BELOW THE LINE*** - Behavior that does not show personal responsibility.

***REFOCUS*** - Taking time to think about behaviors to make corrections independently.

***THE WAY WE LIVE*** - Our culture, how we live and behave instead of 'rules'.

**ASK THREE BEFORE ME** - Expectation that students will ask each other as resources before they ask their teacher.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU SHOULD DO?**

**WHAT DO YOU NEED TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF?**

**HELP ME UNDERSTAND?**

**WHAT ARE YOUR CHOICES?**

**WOULD YOU LIKE A SUGGESTION?** - All phrases and questions are used to get students to consider the problem and possible solutions.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CONSEQUENCE SHOULD BE FOR YOUR CHOICE?** - Getting students to consider their consequences and be a part of the solution rather than imposed 'punishments'.

**3P'S** - Skills for success, polite, positive mental attitude, prepared.

**YOU'RE A ROCK STAR** - Expression used to tell students they have done an amazing job.



# Explorer Pledge

I am an Explorer.

I **make choices** which guide my life.

I am **curious** and **creative**.

I am **respectful** and **responsible**.

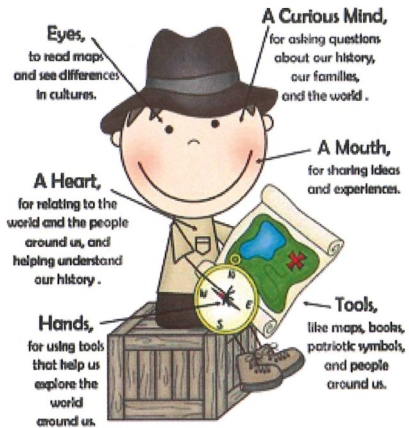
I am **resilient** and keep trying even in difficult times.

I **have dreams** for the future and work to reach my dreams every day.

I believe **every person is capable of success**, no exceptions.

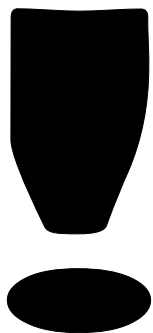
I believe **together we make a difference** for ourselves, our families, and our world.

## The Parts of an Explorer

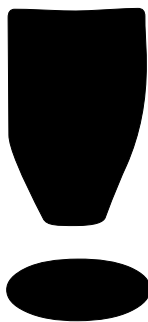




***NOTES:***



**Cañon Exploratory Staff  
would like to thank all  
parents for their  
continued support of our  
school culture.**



**School Culture Handbook Compiled and modified by  
Exploratory School Staff  
Layout design by Lisa Bryan**