

# McKinley Wildcat's Corner

2022  
ED. II

McKinley Elementary

## Batman's Corner

Another amazing thing about our Vision and Mission statement is that they align with the Canon City High School's Graduate Profile so we are ultimately starting to prepare all of our students from Preschool through 5th grade for future success as high school seniors. As we progress through our school day and the entire school year, staff and students are reminded to search for their superpower and identify which of the Traits and Skills represent their individual strengths. We are so proud of the fact that our students become more and more familiar with each Trait and Skill and then begin to apply them in their daily lives. A shining example of this was shared during our First Grade performance that was directed by Ms. Sipma. The students modeled their superpowers and sang several songs that helped them make relevant connections with the Traits and Skills. It was truly a sight to see! We look forward to partnering with each of you in the coming years as we continue to prepare our students for a successful future.

-Mr. Scott Morton, Principal

## Upcoming Dates

- February 22- 2nd Grade Concert @ 3:00pm and 6:30pm
- February 25- Report Cards Go Home
- February 28- PTO Digital @

### Vision

The McKinley Learning Community maintains high expectations, promotes academic excellence, and supports the social-emotional well-being of all students.

### Mission

The McKinley Learning Community develops life-long learners by fostering students' innate curiosity through engaging instruction that promotes the mastery of Canon City Schools' Traits and Skills.

# Preschool



Preschoolers have been diving deep into their classroom studies of the world around them. They have been investigating water and boxes. They have been trying on different clothes and meeting new animals! Our preschool program uses the Creative curriculum which builds children's confidence, creativity, and critical thinking skills through hands-on,



## **We asked our teachers how they demonstrate our skills and traits in the classroom and this is what they had to say...**

**Mrs. Williamson,  
3rd grade teacher**



**Tell us how you feel your students have grown using their traits and skills? Teaching my students, Canon City School District's Traits and Skills, gives them the opportunity to learn; being a good student doesn't just mean achieving high scores on tests. It is teaching them: a love of learning, a passion for knowledge, and hunger to develop and grow academically. We spend a great deal of time using this vocabulary and connecting behaviors and situations to help students experience these important aspects of their everyday life, while at school, so we can use them as teachable moments.**

**Tell me how you help your students overcome their problems?  
Building relationships first with my students is the foundation. I want them to trust me and feel safe in our classroom. I am intentional and purposeful with my lesson plans. I want my students to be engaged and excited about learning.**

**How you are preparing your students for high school?**

**I think this is every teacher's biggest question; Am I making any progress? Are there things we need to change? It's a big responsibility. Of course we get to the reading, writing, math, science but in reality we work on so much more behind the scene! Where to start :0) It is very important to teach how to build time management skills, communication skills and techniques, I know I need to encourage students to study outside of the classroom and do homework if it is required. Today, teaching test taking strategies is so important. We work on stress reduction strategies and how to recognize when you may feel overwhelmed. I teach about character and who the student is the most responsible for. I am constantly observing and deciding on interventions that may help them through high school, and finally, giving the child time. My students need time. They need time to explore and be creative. They are growing and they need time.**

2nd Grade Teacher



**Tell us how you feel your students have grown using their traits and skills?**

In second grade we promote our skills and traits everyday. Students are encouraged to problem solve and discuss amongst themselves when presented with a problem. Our students are taking what they learn everyday in the classroom and applying them to everyday situations.

**Tell us how you help your students learn and grow?**

Our classroom is set up with a purpose. Throughout the day we combine our movement breaks with higher order thinking. When a student get a question correct they get paid with a Red Roar card. These Roar cards can be used to buy prizes at the end of the week. Within our classroom we focus on the positives instead of the negatives. This transfers to our skills and traits. The trait we are currently working on is collaboration. Students are encouraged to work together and discuss and respect different points of view.

**How do you feel you're preparing your students for high school?**

McKinley is preparing all of its students for high school and beyond. In 2nd grade we stress the importance of technology and how to properly use it.

**How do you prepare for your student in the morning?**

In 2nd grade, Students start by greeting me at the door. I let my students choose between a hug or a high five as they walk in. In the mornings we have our "morning train". During this time students can put away their backpacks, eat breakfast, socialize, and mentally prepare themselves for the day. During this time I am walking around and ask kids what "rating" they would give themselves that morning. This gives me an insight on how their night/morning was and it gives the students an opportunity to share what they feel is important. We have a visual timer up on the board for students to show the remaining time for our morning routine.

**What are the skills we practice daily?**

Collaboration

Reflection

Communication

Leadership

Solution Seeking

Empowerment

Contribution

Hi there! We are glad you came to this part of the newsletter. Here we will tell you about the many things we have here at McKinley Elementary. We here at McKinley teach preschool - 5th grade. We like to talk about our cool teachers. For P.E. We have Mrs. Freeling, for music we have Ms. Sipma, for Tech we have Mr. Lyons. For your therapy

**Tell us how you feel your students have helped you grow throughout all the years?**

They have kept me young, moving and they help you feel loved and appreciated!

**Tell us how you use our traits and skill out of the school?**

I hold myself to a very high standard. I have been a part of this community for a long time and I uphold our skills and traits through modeling.

**Tell me how you know when your students are feeling down/bored in the gym? How do you help them with their problem?**

I'm really good at reading faces and body language and a lot of times I try to find another person that can help them and allow them talk

about all of the emotions that they are feeling. I also try to remind kids that they don't need to like every activity, but they still need to try and might discover something. new they really enjoy. Use that tenacity.



Mrs. Freeling

**What do you teach, Mrs. Miller?**

I teach "Choices". We focus on whole body listening as well as how to take care of yourself and others on the inside and outside.

**How do you use the skills and traits when students are off task?**

When students are off task I like to give them an opportunity to join back into our lesson. I embody civility and integrity when talking to students. All of my lessons incorporate our traits and skills. I try to highlight them as I am teaching.

**How do you use the skills and traits to develop lifelong learners?**

As I mentioned previously, the traits and skills are embedded throughout my lessons. I always focus on how our traits can be transferred to everyday situations. Allowing students to practice and develop these skills will allow students to become lifelong learners.



Mrs. Miller

**How do you help your classes of kids make sure they use their traits and skills?**

We embody every trait in all of the classes. For instance, the first grade concert was all about traits and skills. I make sure I incorporate the skills in traits in all my lessons. This past week I have been focusing on tenacity.

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Ms. Sipma



Mr. Lyons

**What do you teach, Mr. Lyons**

I teach "Technology". We focus on whole body listening as well as how to take care of yourself and others on the inside and outside.

**What skills & traits do you utilize in your classroom?**

We use all of our skills and traits as they are embedded into our lesson plans. I really emphasize innovation and collaboration between the students. I push students to problem solve amongst themselves and work together.

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**How do you use traits & skills in the classroom?**

I use collaboration by working with my friends at my table. I also use solution seeking by helping my friends when they get hurt on the playground.

**Tell us how you solve problems using traits and or skills?**

I would try to solve it on my own and if that doesn't work I use tenacity and try again.

**What trait or skill do you use most?**

Answer: Integrity I always tell the truth, which is much better than lying.

**How did you get your white roar?**

I used solution seeking to get my white roar. My class had a sub and I helped her throughout the day.



**How do you use traits & skills in the classroom?**

I use my civility and I use integrity. I use integrity and make sure I am doing what I need to do even when no one is looking.

**Tell us how you solve problems using traits and or skills?**

I make sure that they're working with me and they are using communication and problem solving so I can make sure that the problem gets done.

**How did you get your white roar?**

I got a white roar ticket because I showed civility and integrity by helping the sub and making sure everyone was on track for the day.

**How do you use traits & skills in the classroom?**

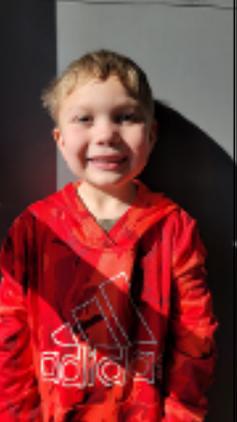
I use my traits and skills in my classroom by collaborating and being a good listener. I use leadership in my classroom.

**What trait do you use most often?**

Probably collaboration, when we have inside recess I can communicate how we can build legos and sometimes in math I can communicate by talking with them.

**How did you get your white roar?**

I help my teacher by being a model student. I follow the skills and traits and help everyone in any way I can.



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**How did you get your white roar?**

I showed integrity by always telling the truth and doing the right thing.