

## What is **Character First!** ?

**Character** ensures R.E.A.L Success. **Character** is defined as 'The qualities built into an individual's life that determines his or her response, regardless of circumstances.

**R.E.A.L Education Group** incorporates the *Character First! Education Program* in building character in the hearts and minds of its teachers and students.

Every month, our students will be introduced to a different Character Quality.

For the entire month, teachers will use story-telling, animal illustrations, games, fun learning activities, handicrafts, classroom projects and discussions to help students understand the definition and value of the Character Quality. Teachers will also praise the students whenever they display the Character Quality.

**The purpose of this *Character First!* article is twofold:-**

- 1) Keep parents updated with Character First! Lessons taught at our schools.
- 2) Provide tips for Parents to Build Character as a Family at Home.

## **Character of the Month (June 2009)**

### **ORDERLINESS** (vs. Confusion)

Definition: Arranging myself and my surroundings to achieve the greatest efficiency

#### The 5 "I Wills" of ORDERLINESS

1. **I will** pick up after myself.
2. **I will** keep my work and play areas clean and neat.
3. **I will** put things back where they belong.
4. **I will** use things only for their intended purposes.
5. **I will** return lost things to their rightful owners.

*The animal that illustrate*  
**Orderliness:**  
**CHIPMUNK**



**Chipmunks spend their autumn days gathering seeds and nuts for the approaching winter. The food storage bins in a chipmunk's burrow are only one aspect of the carefully organized network of rooms and tunnels that make up its underground home.**

## Tips for practicing Orderliness at Home:-

1. Teach your children to instill the habit of orderliness. For example, putting away a toy before getting out a new one, placing clothes on a hanger or in the laundry basket, and returning food to the pantry. Do not let the maids do it for them. If the children make a mess, they need to be responsible to clean up the mess.
2. Prepare a designated basket, box or cabinets for your children to keep his or her toys, school supplies, books and other belongings.
3. Help your children to draw up a calendar to record appointments, activities, music lessons, tuition classes, parties, sports activities and others. This is to help them to build the discipline of being orderly in their daily routines.
4. Use praise to encourage your children to do everything in a decently and orderly manner.

## Ways to Praise for Orderliness

When your children demonstrated orderliness, mention the specific action that he took. Instead of saying, "Very good! You are a wonderful boy!", you can say "Thank you for not only finishing your homework, but also for putting your books and stationeries away. It looks very tidy and orderly.

### **Praise children for being orderly, when you see them:**

- Maintaining a tidy area
- Returning items to their proper places
- Improving their penmanship
- Keeping a neat appearance
- Showing initiative
- Turning in homework assignments
- Cleaning up their own messes
- Cleaning up other people's messes
- Using good manners at mealtime.



endorses and uses Character First! in their curriculum.

For more information, please call 03-5631-8000 and visit [www.real.edu.my](http://www.real.edu.my)