

Making Decisions with Six Pillars of Character[®]

When we see great sportsmanship, we are witnessing the Six Pillars in action. Sportsmanship is one example of how the Six Pillars help us make good choices.



Watch this video with your students: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jocw-oD2pgo>



Consider

Think about Sara and the players in the video. Using the **Character In Action Checklist** on page 2, consider:

- How would they answer the questions on the checklist?
- Did they demonstrate trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship?
- How did they demonstrate the Six Pillars?



Reflect

After completing and discussing the Six Pillar Checklist, ask students to write about a time when they made a poor decision. Students can use the Six Pillar Checklist to reflect on ways they could have made a better decision in that same situation.

CHARACTER-IN-ACTION CHECKLIST:

SIX PILLARS



When faced with a choice or dilemma, consider the following:

Would my decisions pass each of these tests?	Yes	No
Trustworthiness Test: Would my words and actions be honest, sincere, and reliable?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Respect Test: If the situation was reversed, is this how I would want to be treated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Responsibility Test: What would be the consequences of my words and actions and would I do the right thing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fairness Test: Would this be fair to everybody involved in and affected by my actions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caring Test: Would my words and actions express compassion and kindness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Citizenship Test: Would I want to live in a world where everybody did this?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What if it's still not clear what to do?

1. Stop!
2. Think it over some more.
3. Seek additional insight from individuals whose integrity you respect.

Adapted from Lickona & Davidson (2005).