

DINNER



DILEMMAS

Character Word of the Month
Cooperation
Getting along with others and working together to accomplish a goal.

By Mary Hart,
Oakhurst Guidance Counselor

You, as a family, are encouraged to discuss a separate ‘situation’ each week of the month, presented as a “Dinner Dilemma”. You could decide how the character quality relates to the situation presented. Additionally, you could discuss how the character quality of the month applies to each family member. The character word for the month of October is **Cooperation**.

<p>Week 1</p> <p>Situation: One evening Sam’s dad says he will take the family out for ice cream after the kids clean-up the kitchen. The ice cream shop closes in 20 minutes. Sam’s brother was not helping. Dilemma: On one hand Sam knew he could do both jobs. On the other hand Sam felt his brother should cooperate to help get the task completed as quickly as possible. Discussion: What advice do you have for Sam?</p>	<p>Week 2</p> <p>Situation: Sue and Sam arrived at the kickball field at the same time. Both volunteer to be the pitcher. Dilemma: On one hand they knew only one of them could be the pitcher. On the other hand neither one wanted to play another position. Discussion: How could they cooperate to solve this situation?</p>
<p>Week 3</p> <p>Situation: Sam and his best friend are writing a play to be performed by their club. They disagreed as to the ending of the story. Dilemma: On one hand Sam thinks his ending is better than his friend’s. On the other hand Sam wants to cooperate with his friend. Discussion: What advice do you have for Sam and his friend?</p>	<p>Week 4</p> <p>Situation: Working in a cooperative group, each person had a specific job to do. One member of the group was not contributing to the group’s goal. Dilemma: On one hand they could attempt to solve the situation within the group. On the other hand they could report to the teacher that one person was not cooperating. Discussion: What advice do you have for the group?</p>

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