



Element 10: Sending Wisdom—Stella’s Challenge

Life Skills, Writing	Sending Wisdom—Stella’s Challenge
<p>Grade Levels: Variable</p> <p>Time: 40 minutes to 1 hour</p> <p>Resources Video Paper Pencil (or email)</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>Learners will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience the decision-making process through the eyes of a peer regarding current and future life choices• Practice writing or rewriting laws• Share commitments and future goals with peers in another region to “share wisdom”	<p>Teacher, Parent or Self-Guided Learners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• View Stella’s video• Read and discuss Stella’s letter together• List laws you are interested in writing or changing; reword the laws• List possible commitments and ideas for improving the world.• Write individual or group letters.• Send to learners in another school or country or to: info@fullcirclelearning.org.

Introduction

A 12-year old student named Stella wrote a letter to you, as her wisdom exchange partner. She thought a lot about decision making. Read the letter and view her video.

Reflection and Discussion

Think about your own interests. How do your skills and your beliefs shape your decisions? What commitments you will honor in the future?

Practice

Think about Stella's commitment to become an environmental judge, to implement laws about plastics. What practices or laws would you like to change? How would you write those laws?

Write a letter or an email sharing your commitment about something you have vowed to improve in the world.

Send It

To whom will you send your letter or video? Send it online, by postal mail or by delivery. Review Stella's letter and video for ideas.



Stella built a birdhouse in 2019 at camp. Her letter to you appears on the following page.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We all know that decisions in our lives are very important. Many of us have made good decisions that we feel were honorable. But, not everyone has made a decision that honors the right to life and human happiness. To me, this means that humans get to be happy and have their lives protected. An example of a decision like this is if I were to become a lifeguard at my local pool when I turned 15. I would be happy working and protecting people, and the people swimming would be happy playing and knowing that their lives are being protected. I would be making a choice to honor the right to life and human happiness if I were to do that.

There have been many moments in my life where I realized my skills were important. But, not very many times in my life have I realized my skills were important in a decision that could lead to a life of greater purpose. Even if it is a small choice. In our town, we have a summer camp fair. My family and I go there each year to look at the summer camps and get more information. Last year, there was a camp called climate change agents. I really only went over to their booth to get some candy, but I ended up making an amazing choice. I went over to get the candy, and the adults at the booth began talking to me, and I began wanting to go to the camp. They were talking about climate change and what we can do. I really wanted to sign up, so I got everything in as fast as I could. Turns out, it was a very good decision. I learned plenty of new skills, and I learned about how we can save the environment. Now, I use my new skills to continue to help the environment, and I feel like I have a life of greater purpose.

When I become an adult, I would like to become an environmental lawyer. One of the laws I would like to create is a law against plastic. Plastic pollutes the ocean and makes marine life die. I believe we all need to help out with this problem. My idea is very simple. Because plastic is used every day by so many

people around the world, it is very hard to avoid. But, even though it may be hard, it is not impossible. There are substitutes for plastic that work just as well. These are biodegradable and paper products. The first step of my plan would be to ban all plastic. This is a very efficient start. Next, I would put in the plastic substitutes. These will help the environment and they also decompose faster. The third and final step to my plan is how we can dispose of the waste. We can dispose of the waste by recycling and using compost piles. This would then make the oceans a lot less polluted. This is much healthier for the earth.

This is only what honor looks like to me where I live. I want to know what honor looks like to you where you live. Share your own stories with one another and inspire each other to work together so we can improve problems brought by climate change, by pandemics, by inequality and food insecurity and war, or whatever else happens in human happiness. We can honor our commitment, time, energy and talent to the balance of nature and harmony in our world.

Thank You for Reading,
Bye until next time!

~Stella

