



**BRIGHTEN
ACADEMY**



7 Cs DECK

Brighten Academy

2023-2024 – All 14 Activities Due April 8 (7 Activities Due before Dec. 4 to be eligible for the Green Party Celebration)

Ethical People and Effective Learners

Crew, Craftsmanship, Critical Thinking, Curiosity, Creativity, Commitment, Community

Effective learners do more than they think possible by developing the mindset and skills for success in school, college, and life including: responsibility, perseverance, collaboration, organization, preparation, and resourcefulness.

Ethical people treat others with respect and compassion and stand up for what's right.

Student Name _____

EFFECTIVE LEARNER - CRAFTSMANSHIP

Attends to quality of a product or presentation * Shows attention to beauty, accuracy, and detail * Uses multiple drafts or practice to create a high quality product * Uses feedback to improve quality * Handles material with care

Task Choices	Description	Requirements for Credit	Initials
Feedback	Research how to give kind, specific, helpful feedback to others using at least 2 resources. Create a feedback puppet with a script to teach others and present to your Crew.	Researched script and original puppet presentation	
Idea Generation	Develop 3 sketches or 3 story ideas and choose 1 to fully develop into a polished image or story	3 sketches with 1 polished image or 3 story ideas with 1 polished story	
Craftsmanship Interview	Interview someone in your personal life who "crafts" (knitting, woodworking, sculpture, gardening, culinary arts, etc.) and record the interview.	Interview questions and responses or recorded interview. 2 nd -3 rd 10 questions 4 th -5 th 15 questions 6 th -8 th 20 questions	
Craftsmanship Role Model Research	Read a non-fiction book about a person who displays good craftsmanship through practice, trial and error, beauty and detail, or the use of multiple drafts. Write a letter to the person about what you learned from their story.	Book research and letter	
Competition or Performance Practice	Participate in an event (competition, play, musical performance, etc.) that requires practice. Submit a picture of yourself participating in the final competition or performance.	1 event and picture	
Performance	Participate in a school or community performance that requires multiple rehearsals. Explain the process to your class.	Photo from the performance and class presentation	
Other	Submit a request to your teacher for approval of another project of your choice that demonstrates craftsmanship.	Teacher approval and documentation	

EFFECTIVE LEARNER - COMMITMENT

Demonstrates preparation, time on task, personal best, follow-through, and task completion * Meets deadlines * Follows directions * Exhibits organization * Perseveres through complex problems without giving up * Takes pride in work

Task Choices	Description	Requirements for Credit	Initials
Grades	Earns all 3s in all academic subjects (ELA, SS, Math, Science)	On at least 1 report card (1 st , 2 nd , or 3 rd quarter)	
Clubs and Extracurricular	Participate in at least 1 club or extracurricular activity (school, church, rec. team, etc.)	1 semester	
Completed Assignments	Have three or less missing or late assignments for a 9-week period, as evidenced by Google Classroom or Infinite Campus.	Completed Assignments and Teacher Signatures	
Reading Buddy	Read to a buddy (someone younger than you) every day for two weeks (14 days). Log all of the book titles. Write a reflection on your favorite part of the activity.	Reading Log and Reflection	
Attendance	Have no more than one absence during a 9-week period.	Teacher signatures	
Peer Tutoring	Keep a 1-month Peer Tutoring Log documenting how you've helped a peer with an academic subject at least 3 times per week. Log should include date, time, skill reviewed, and a reflection of the tutoring session to prep for the next one.	1 month of log entries	
Academic Improvement	Demonstrate continual improvement in an academic area over the course of a semester (increased scores in a classroom platform, reading level or math assessments, Report Card grades, etc.)	Documentation of improvements over the course of a semester signed by the appropriate teacher	
Other	Submit a request to your teacher for approval of another project of your choice that demonstrates commitment.	Teacher approval and documentation	

EFFECTIVE LEARNER - CREATIVITY

Seeks alternative solutions * Elaborates * Displays authentic representation of ideas * Demonstrates flexible thinking * Explores the arts and literature

Task Choices	Description	Requirements for Credit	Initials
Perfect School	Draw or build a model of the perfect school. Include labels (i.e. playground, cafeteria, media center, etc.)	Picture or model with labels	
Experience the Arts	Attend a cultural experience (in-person or virtual) – an art exhibit, museum, musical performance, drama production, etc., and present a memento from the performance and a review of your experience.	1 event with a memento and a review (virtual events can provide a link to the event rather than a memento)	
Shape Art	Use only basic shapes (circles, squares, rectangles, ovals, squares, etc.) to create a recognizable subject. The artwork should be created on 12x18 paper or larger.	One piece of artwork	
Special Performance	Participate in a creative performance in an event outside of the school (dance, music performance, theatre, etc.)	1 performance	
Creative Revisions	Create a piece of visual or performance art and submit a document or video showing your progress or process with multiple drafts or rehearsals (drawing/painting, song, monologue, poetry, etc.)	1 piece or artwork with a document or video showing progress or process	
Original Artwork	Create an authentic piece of art with the subject/title of "Creativity" or "The Creative Process" (art, music, poem, drama, dance, story, play, website, etc.) and share it with the class.	1 authentic piece and presentation	
Other	Submit a request to your teacher for approval of another project of your choice that demonstrates commitment.	Teacher approval and documentation	

EFFECTIVE LEARNER - CURIOSITY

Asks thought-provoking questions * Seeks to learn more * Exhibits wondering * Pursues deeper understanding * Extends interests, knowledge, and skill in new areas

Task Choices	Description	Requirements for Credit	Initials
DOGO News	Explore topics on www.dogonews.com . Choose topics that interest you and write a summary of what you learned about each one. Share the summaries with your Crew.	2 nd -5 th 2 summaries 6 th -8 th 3 summaries	
I Wonder...	Write an "I wonder..." list of questions. Find out the answer to half of them and share your findings with your Crew.	2 nd -3 rd 10 questions, 5 answers 3 rd -4 th 20 questions, 10 answers 6 th -8 th 30 questions, 15 answers	
Machine Exploration	Find a science experiment or demonstration to share with your Crew. You may present it live or share a video you create. You may research your own or use www.giftofcuriosity.com .	Crew presentation of Science demonstration	
Science Experiment	Research a science experiment and perform it at home. Write a brief paragraph detailing what you learned and share it with your crew.	One science experiment and presentation.	
Makerspace Creation	Makerspace is all about creative construction! Construct a makerspace creation by using one of the ideas from the site below or one of the many online makerspace activities. www.stemtoyexpert.com/tag/makerspace/	Share a picture of your creation with your Crew	
Website Exploration	Explore the website www.wonderopolis.org . Write down at least 3 interesting discoveries you make.	Share an interesting discovery with your Crew	
Other	Select another task of your choice that demonstrates this trait	Have a teacher or Mrs. McDonald approve your choice	

ETHICAL PEOPLE - COMMUNITY

Concern for others' needs * Compassion * Empathy * Taking care of the environment of the common space * Giving time, money, and talents to improve the lives of others

Task Choices	Description	Requirements for Credit	Initials
School Volunteer	Attend a Saturday work day at Brighten and work at least 2 hours.	1 Saturday for the year and a written summary of how you helped the school and how this made you feel.	
Food Drive	Collect at least 100 lbs of food and donate it to a local pantry or the Atlanta Food Bank.	Submit a photo of you delivering the food	
Community Visit	Visit a nursing home or a veteran's hospital and visit with someone there. Take a card or other thoughtful memento to make them feel special.	Submit a photo of your visit	
Ethical Hero	Identify someone who has made a difference in their community or their world, research information about them, and make a video presentation about them for the morning announcements.	1 video submitted to Mrs. Peterson	
Trash Collection	With permission from your parent, pick up trash for 30 minutes per day for 5 days in a local park or community area or our school playground or grounds. Make sure to use gloves and submit a photo of you working.	Teacher verification	
Community Service Journal	Keep a journal of ways you have demonstrated ethical character in the community. Each entry should be dated and specific. Examples can be during school or outside of school.	2 nd -3 rd 30 entries 4 th -5 th 40 entries 6 th -8 th 50 entries	
Other	Submit a request to your teacher for approval of another project of your choice that demonstrates community.	Teacher approval and documentation	

EFFECTIVE LEARNER - CRITICAL THINKING

Seeks challenges * Looks for multiple solutions * Thinks outside the box * Considers multiple perspectives * Extends understanding beyond what is taught * Attacks complex problems by grappling

Task Choices	Description	Requirements for Credit	Initials
Secret Code	Create your own secret code and have a friend, family member, or classmate try to solve it.	1 secret code and key	
Corrected Work	Select something that you made a 3 on and add to the work so that you can get a 3D (above grade level or uses the skill or information in a way that has not been taught in class).	Corrected and regraded work sample	
Overcoming Fear	Anticipatory Thinking is one way to face your fears. Think of something that you are afraid of doing, answer the following questions, and share the answers with your teacher: What is the worst possible thing that could happen? What is the best thing that could happen? Do I have any control over the outcome? To what degree? Can I ask anyone for help or advice? If the worst happens, will I still be all right? What is my plan for facing the worst?	Typed or handwritten questions and answers	
Thinking Riddles	2 nd -5 th Search Thinking Riddles for Kids. Read at least 5 riddles and find a thinking riddle to share with your Crew. There are many websites but one you may try is https://parenting.firstcry.com/articles/50-best-riddles-for-kids-to-boost-their-critical-thinking-skills/ 6 th -8 th Log onto ed.ted.com and search "riddles". Watch five and try to figure out the answer before it is revealed. Post your favorite TedEd on your Crew Google Classroom Stream.	2 nd -5 th Post a Thinking Riddle on your Crew Google Classroom stream or share live with your Crew. 6 th -8 th Post a TedEd riddle on your Crew Google Classroom stream.	
Puzzle	Complete a puzzle and submit pictures of the puzzle at various stages of completion.	2 nd -5 th 250+ piece puzzle 6 th -8 th 500+ piece puzzle	
Other	Submit a request to your teacher for approval of another project of your choice that demonstrates critical thinking.	Teacher approval and documentation	

ETHICAL PEOPLE – CREW CULTURE

Recognizes the unique talents, gifts, cultures, personalities, and accomplishments of others * Contributes to a team to reach a common goal * Contributes to a productive learning, playing, or living environment * Follows norms and rules that benefit all * Supports Crew members' feelings and needs so they can feel like Crew

Task Choices	Description	Requirements for Credit	Initials
Respectful Disagreement	Write a summary of a time when you demonstrated respectful disagreement. Be sure to explain the issue, how you showed respect, and how the issue was solved.	1 summary	
Recognizing Emotions	Create a photo album (real or hand drawn) of faces that show at least 10 different emotions. Write an example for each of what might cause each feeling.	10 pictures or drawings and 10 sentences	
Ethical People in Culture	Research someone of another culture that contributed to their community in a special way. Submit a summary of what they did and how it supported others.	2 nd -5 th grade ½ page 6 th -8 th grade 1 page	
Teacher Award	Create an award for a teacher, administrator, or extracurricular leader and give at least 5 specific examples of how he/she builds a Crew spirit in the school.	1 award including examples	
Letter of Appreciation	Write a letter of appreciation to our school administrators, the Board, the office staff, the café staff, or the janitorial staff. Ask Mrs. McDonald to read the letter during Community Circle.	1 letter	
Classroom Partnership	Pick a classroom to support. Make a list of 10 book recommendations based on your favorite books and make bookmarks for the students.	List of 10 book recommendations and a class set of bookmarks delivered to the homeroom teacher	
Other	Submit a request to your teacher for approval of another project of your choice that demonstrates community.	Teacher approval and documentation	