



Ark Globe Academy



Integrity

What does Integrity mean?

Definition: The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles

Task: Think of a time when you have shown integrity

Stretch: Why is it important to show integrity?



The Honest Wood Cutter

Read the story below and identify any themes of integrity you notice.

Once there lived a man who was a woodcutter who every day would cut trees in the wood to be able to sell the wood for money. One day he was cutting wood on the bank of a river when his axe fell down into the very deep river. He could not take his axe out so he sat on the bank and began to weep. He wondered what he would do with no axe as he could not afford a new one.

Mercury, the god of water appeared in disguise. Mercury asked the reason of his weeping. The woodcutter told the whole story of how he is a wood cutter but his axe had fallen into the river.

Mercury went down to the bottom of the river and returned with a silver axe "Is this yours?" he said. "No," the woodcutter replied.

Mercury then returned with a golden axe. "Is this yours?" he asked.

"No," said the woodcutter. Then Mercury appeared with his plain wooden axe. That one is mine!" said the woodcutter happily.

"You've been so honest," said the spirit, "take the gold and silver axe too!"

Did you get these messages from the story?

- Being honest is **always the right thing** to do
- If you are honest, often you will be rewarded for it
- If you are not honest, **someone will always find out** and it will get you into trouble.

Highlight the sentences or parts of the story where you can find evidence of the bullet points above.

