Myself and Others

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MICHIGAN OPEN BOOK PROJECT
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About the Authors - Myself And Others

Lisa Abramowski
Belmont Elementary
Rockford Public Schools
Lisa Abramowski teaches kindergarten at Belmont Elementary School in the Rockford Public School District. She is currently in her seventh year of teaching and loves helping the littlest learners fall in love with school for the first time. Lisa is also a technology coach who especially enjoys teaching coding to her building’s K-2 students. When Lisa is not coding with kinders or facilitating guided reading groups, she can often be spotted training for marathons, baking in her kitchen, or drinking far too much coffee.

Cyndi Frakes
Indian Lake Elementary
Vicksburg Community Schools
Cyndi, a graduate of Vicksburg Community Schools, has spent much of her life in Vicksburg, MI. She pursued a career in Education obtaining her Undergraduate and Master’s degrees from Western Michigan University. For the past 23 years, she has been blessed to teach Kindergarten at Vicksburg’s Indian Lake Elementary, while continuously serving on the district’s Social Studies Curriculum Committee. It is her passion to teach Social Studies to young children. Cyndi brings history and geography to life for her students by sharing memories of growing up and living in the farming community. She received the Educator of the Year Award from Kalamazoo County Farm Bureau for her work in promoting the understanding, appreciation, and support of agriculture.

Sandy Freeland
McBain Elementary School
McBain Rural Agricultural School
Sandy is a full time teacher at McBain Elementary School in McBain Michigan. She has taught Kindergarten and Third Grade during her time there. In addition to classroom teaching she’s also provided technology professional development for the district. Outside of the school day she can be found learning from others in Twitter chats, participating in groups on Facebook, and working on developing a coding club for her school.
Lisa Gutowski  
*KND Elementary*  
*Kaleva Normon Dickson*  
I have taught kindergarten for the past 21 years and I still enjoy working with little kids everyday. My husband and I live in Onekama. We have two wonderful children named Jackson and Madison. I love coming home to them each day. I also enjoy reading, walking, gardening, spending time with my family and friends, and going to Disney World.

Annie McMahon Whitlock  
*Assistant Professor*  
*University of Michigan-Flint*  
Annie McMahon Whitlock is an Assistant Professor of Elementary Education at University of Michigan-Flint. In addition to teaching the elementary social studies methods course, she is the Elementary Education Program Coordinator, focusing on the student teaching experience. Her research is centered on teaching social studies through civic engagement, place-based inquiry, and integrating language arts and literature.

David A. Johnson  
*Project Manager*  
*Michigan Open Book Project*  
Dave began his career teaching 8th grade United States History in Mesick, Michigan. After almost a decade in the classroom, he took a job at Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District (WMISD) as an Instructional Consultant for Social Studies. He is shared across 11 ISDs in Northern Michigan that form the Northern Michigan Learning Consortium. He completed his Masters in Educational Leadership through Central Michigan University in 2011 and is Co-Project Director of the Performance Assessments of Social Studies Thinking (PASST) Project in addition to his duties as the Project Manager for MI Open Book.

The Michigan Open Book Project  
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Widget Readers - Myself and Others

Joseph Baumann -
Joe joined the Cadillac Footliters in 2016, coming from having performed many times on the stage with Riverwalk Theater in Lansing, Michigan. Some of his favorite roles have been Lancelot in Camelot, Captain Scott in Terra Nova, and Nathan Rothschild in the Rothschilds.

Melissa Kendell -
Melissa has enjoyed performing in productions like Into the Woods and a Christmas Story. She’s been a part of various charity performances including the annual United Way Murder Mystery and Dancing with the Y Stars.

Kelli Simons -
Kelli has been in many local theater productions including the Mother in a Christmas Story, the Baker’s Wife in Into the Woods, Tansy McGinnis in the Nerd. She comes from a talented theatrical family.
Chapter 2

What does it look like to be responsible?

1. How can we be responsible at school?
2. How can we be responsible at home?
3. What does it mean to be independent?
This chapter is all about responsibility. It is a great extension of the first chapter on the need for rules. We recommend keeping these chapters together as you move through your social studies units.

As with every chapter in this book, we recommend making the compelling question a transparent part of your daily instruction by writing it on the board and referring back to it as part of your daily instruction. Students begin their exploration of the term responsibility by discussing ways that they can be responsible at both home and school. A simple drag and drop activity called classroom cleanup may be simplistic - but having students practice cleaning up this animated classroom helps reinforce this same idea in their physical classroom.

We conclude this chapter with a discussion on what it means to be independent. Children gain different levels of independence as they age. It is important to talk about how independence and responsibility go hand in hand.
Section 1

How can we be responsible at school?

QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. How can we be responsible at school?
2. How can we be responsible at home?
3. What does it mean to be independent?

WORDS TO INTRODUCE:
responsible

For the Teacher:

K-C5.0.1 - Describe situations in which they demonstrated self-discipline and individual responsibility.

Teacher Directions

After explaining and defining the word Responsibility, have students work together to come up with a list of responsibilities at school. Make a classroom chart of these responsibilities.

This interactive involves a messy art desk! All the objects on the table are draggable. Have kids work together to identify what goes where.

At the end of this section we give kids several different scenarios. This is a great opportunity to stop and talk to kids about how to act responsibly.
Sometimes you are at home. Sometimes you are at school. No matter where you are, you need to be responsible. What do you think the word responsible means?
Being **responsible** means to make good choices that help yourself and others.
At school, we have responsibilities. What are some responsibilities we have at school?

Let’s make a list of our responsibilities at school.
In the classroom, following the rules is a way to be responsible. When you follow the rules, you can learn and so can the other children. Another way to be responsible is to do your best work.
When you put away the things that you use, you are showing responsibility. What are some things that you use and take care of in your classroom?
It’s time to clean up the classroom. Put the paint supplies and pencils back where they belong.
In the cafeteria, you take your lunch to a table and eat with your friends. When you are done eating, what should you do to be responsible?
When you are on the playground, it is time to have fun with your friends. What is a way you can be responsible on the playground?
Following the rules on the playground helps keep everyone safe. It also helps us get along with each other.
Many children ride a bus to school. The bus driver’s responsibility is to drive the bus safely. How can you be responsible on the bus?
How can we be responsible at home?

QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. How can we be responsible at school?
2. How can we be responsible at home?
3. What does it mean to be independent?

WORDS TO INTRODUCE:

- respect
- chores

For the Teacher:

K-C5.0.1 - Describe situations in which they demonstrated self-discipline and individual responsibility.

Teacher Directions

Little Mandy Manners - Being Responsible - play this video for students and discuss what it means to be responsible.

Teacher Directions

The series of pages in the middle of this section ask students to think about ways to be responsible. Use this to introduce the words respect and chores and discuss with students.

Teacher Directions

These optional videos at the end emphasize what respect at home and school mean.
When you are at home, you have responsibilities. What are some responsibilities you have at home?

Turn and talk with a friend.
Let’s make a list of our responsibilities at home.
At home, following the rules is a way to be responsible. When you follow the rules, you show respect for your family.
Just like at school, a way to be responsible at home is to put away things that you use. What are some things that you use and take care of at home?
At home, you may have jobs or **chores** to do. Some kids make their bed. Some kids help wash dishes. Some kids help with laundry. What is a job or chore you have at home?
Before you come to school in the morning, you have some responsibilities. You need to get dressed and put your shoes on.
You need to brush your teeth. You need to get your backpack ready. What else do you need to do before you come to school?
Let’s learn more about respect at home and school!
Section 3

What does it mean to be independent?

QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. How can we be responsible at school?
2. How can we be responsible at home?
3. What does it mean to be independent?

WORDS TO INTRODUCE:

independent

For the Teacher:

K-C5.0.1 - Describe situations in which they demonstrated self-discipline and individual responsibility.

Teacher Directions

This section introduces the word “Independent” - talk with students about what it means to be independent.

Teacher Directions

The section (and chapter) ends with students talking about what it means to be independent and coming up with a list. Write this list on chart paper and hang it in the room.

Teacher Directions

What does it mean to be responsible? Revisit the compelling question for this chapter once you have finished all three sections and have students answer the question by writing simple sentences and illustrating examples of responsibility.
When you are being responsible, you are also being independent. **Independent** means doing things by yourself without needing someone to help you.
When you put on your coat and zip it, you are being independent.
When you pick up your toys and put them away, you are being independent and responsible.
When you clean up your area after snack time, you are also being independent and responsible.
What are some other ways you are independent at school? What are some other ways you are independent at home?

Turn and talk with a friend. Let’s make a list of ways we are independent
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