The American Character Program creates an exciting experience for students to learn lessons in civic responsibility, character building, financial literacy, career development, community engagement and our Great American story. American Character provides more context for students by using the lives and accomplishments of great American characters who modeled what can be accomplished by any citizen.

As the name suggests, this resource teaches the history behind ten pivotal American characters such as Harriet Tubman, Benjamin Franklin and Abraham Lincoln while highlighting the motivating character traits which distinguishes these individuals as extraordinarily significant heroes in the American experience.

This program, in conjunction with the #GoodCharacters service-learning project, is compatible with any American history, civics or government class. The program concludes with a student-led “Expo” where they share their ideas and execution of service projects with peers, parents and press.

Through defining characters from our nation’s past, students will develop their own strong character for America’s future.
How it works:

1. The American Character Program begins with a Kickoff that gets the students excited to learn and introduces them to #GoodCharacters service-learning projects they will begin and complete in the next few months.

2. Students are engaged and informed by the innovative, comic book-style, curriculum format, followed by more in-depth lessons.

3. The main components of the program are character education, financial literacy, career exploration, community engagement, essential skills and civic education. We believe that for a student to become a good citizen they must understand these basic themes.

4. Next, student teams put character into action. They create innovative solutions that impact the community and just might change our world!

5. Community mentors are assigned to groups to help them solidify ideas and action plans, then to assist in the projects in which they will participate.

6. The experience ends with a #GoodCharacters Expo (orchestrated by Liberty Learning Foundation’s events team) allowing students to share their service-learning projects with the community. Parents, press, business and community leaders will all attend to cheer them on!

Lessons:

- Service-Based Citizenship
- Patriotism
- Liberty
- Education
- Courage
- Perseverance
- Equality
- Responsibility
- Empathy
- Resourcefulness

Students are engaged at the kickoff event where they learn, hands-on, the importance of civic participation so no one “drops the ball.”

We don’t just “tell” students they can make a difference like historic American figures. We ASK them how they’ll make their own marks!