

# Riverdale Grade School



# Habits of Mind

Learn more at  
[www.RiverdaleSchool.com/habits](http://www.RiverdaleSchool.com/habits)

 <p><b>1. Persisting</b> <i>Stick to it!</i> Persevering in task through to completion; remaining focused. Looking for ways to reach your goal when stuck. Not giving up.</p>	 <p><b>2. Managing Impulsivity</b> <i>Take your time!</i> Thinking before acting; remaining calm, thoughtful and deliberative.</p>	 <p><b>3. Listening with understanding and empathy</b> <i>Understand others!</i> Devoting mental energy to another person's thoughts and ideas; Make an effort to perceive another's point of view and emotions.</p>	 <p><b>4. Thinking flexibly</b> <i>Look at it another way!</i> Being able to change perspectives, generate alternatives, consider options.</p>
 <p><b>5. Thinking about your thinking (Metacognition)</b> <i>Know your knowing!</i> Being aware of your own thoughts, strategies, feelings and actions and their effects on others.</p>	 <p><b>6. Striving for accuracy</b> <i>Check it again!</i> Always doing your best. Setting high standards. Checking and finding ways to improve constantly.</p>	 <p><b>7. Questioning and problem posing</b> <i>How do you know?</i> Having a questioning attitude; knowing what data are needed &amp; developing questioning strategies to produce those data. Finding problems to solve.</p>	 <p><b>8. Applying past knowledge to new situations</b> <i>Use what you learn!</i> Accessing prior knowledge; transferring knowledge beyond the situation in which it was learned.</p>
 <p><b>9. Thinking &amp; communicating with clarity and precision</b> <i>Be clear!</i> Strive for accurate communication in both written and oral form; avoiding over-generalizations, distortions, deletions and exaggerations.</p>	 <p><b>10. Gather data through all senses</b> <i>Use your natural pathways!</i> Pay attention to the world around you Gather data through all the senses. taste, touch, smell, hearing and sight.</p>	 <p><b>11. Creating, imagining, and innovating</b> <i>Try a different way!</i> Generating new and novel ideas, fluency, originality</p>	 <p><b>12. Responding with wonderment and awe</b> <i>Have fun figuring it out!</i> Finding the world awesome, mysterious and being intrigued with phenomena and beauty.</p>
 <p><b>13. Taking responsible risks</b> <i>Venture out!</i> Being adventuresome; living on the edge of one's competence. Try new things constantly.</p>	 <p><b>14. Finding humor</b> <i>Laugh a little!</i> Finding the whimsical, incongruous and unexpected. Being able to laugh at one's self.</p>	 <p><b>15. Thinking interdependently</b> <i>Work together!</i> Being able to work in and learn from others in reciprocal situations. Team work.</p>	 <p><b>16. Remaining open to continuous learning</b> <i>Learn from experiences!</i> Having humility and pride when admitting we don't know; resisting complacency.</p>

## 2014-2017 Community Summer Reading Suggestions

### Summer of 2014:

*Reading in the Wild* by Donalyn Miller

*The Book Whisperer* by Donalyn Miller

### Summer of 2015:

*Mindset* by Carol Dweck

*Learning and Leading with Habits of Mind* by Arthur L. Costa and Bena Kallick

### Summer of 2016:

*Race Matters* by Cornel West

### Summer of 2017:

*The Happiness Project* by Gretchen Rubin

## 2017-2018 Habits

*Core Habits* will be a focus at **K-2** all year and will begin the year for our **3rd - 8th** graders:

- Managing Impulsivity*
- Listening with Empathy*
- Persistence*
- Striving for Accuracy*

The six remaining habits will rotate in **grades 3-8**, while remaining focused on the four core habits above for the 2017-2018 school year.

- Applying Past Knowledge to New Situations* (October)
- Thinking about Thinking* (November/December)
- Questioning and Posing Problems* (January)
- Creating, Imagining, Innovating* (February)
- Remaining Open to Continuous Learning* (March-April)
- Responding with Wonderment and Awe* (May-June)

RGS is on a **two year rotation** of Habits of Mind. Next school year, 2018-2019, the following habits will be a focus at the 3rd - 8th grade levels, replacing the six in the box above: Gathering Data Through All Senses, Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision, Finding Humor, Thinking Interdependently, Taking Responsible Risks, and Thinking Flexibly.