

**Sappington Elementary School
St. Louis, Missouri
Grades K-5**

Olympic Day

Every other year Sappington Elementary hosts Olympic Day, where students participate in a variety of games and activities that focus on skills learned in P.E. classes. Staff, students, parent volunteers, and community members participate. While the focus of Olympic Day has always been character education, fun, and reinforcement of P.E. skills, the most recent event took on a deeper character focus. The Sappington Character Team brainstormed ideas to bring character to the forefront of the day. During P.E. classes Olympic Day stations were created where students pondered appropriate ways to handle different character situations through role-play activities. Each class adopted a station and made a sign showcasing the new name of the station, which were displayed on Olympic Day. Student-led closed-circuit television broadcasted opening and closing ceremonies. Students were able to speak to the character traits that they saw during the day. These traits were a regular part of the language they used when reflecting on the day's events. Because of character education, Olympic Day has taken on a new focus and there is new meaning to the phrase, Go for the Gold!

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