

Resilience

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Sometimes I imagine resilience like a trampoline. No matter what hits it, it bounces back up again. By dictionary definition, resilience means the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties, but to me, it means to keep working at something, even when it's difficult. Without resilience, we wouldn't ever reach our goals or learn new skills.

Resilience is the most important core value because we use it all the time. Whether it's when we keep working at a difficult math problem or when we continue shooting hoops even though we always miss, we need to be resilient or else we'll never finish anything we start. Imagine if, when Thomas Edison was inventing the lightbulb, he'd just given up because he couldn't make it work. Our world would be so different! Yet he kept trying, kept bouncing back just like the trampoline. In fact, Edison once said, "I have not failed, I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." Without resilience, we would never finish what we start.

Recently, resilience has been a bigger part of our lives than usual, because of Covid 19. Everything has been flipped upside down. We've had to adjust to the situation so often that the way we go to school is sometimes different from day to day. Yet we've united to completely reimagine our world. Like the trampoline, we keep bouncing back. Even though sometimes it's hard, resilience helps us grow as people and as a community.

One time when resilience has impacted my life was last year. I was trying to learn a new skill at a tennis camp and did not understand it. But I kept working hard at it. I went through what I had to do in my head, then tried out the motion with the racket. Finally, I understood it. Now, I use that skill almost every time I play tennis. I kept working hard at something difficult, and I learned from it. That, to me, is the definition of resilience.

When you're resilient, you're like a trampoline, always bouncing back no matter what hits it. When you're resilient, you push through difficult things and it makes you a better person and it strengthens your community. Even though it's hard, resilience is very important. Without resilience the world would be very different; we wouldn't finish anything worthwhile because we'd give up at the smallest problem. Resilience gives us the strength to never stop trying, which is why it is the most important core value.