

CONSIDER

Choose a big idea to build the long-range plan

The big idea anchors the long-range plan. Finding that big idea is always a challenge and there is no secret recipe for doing that. Generally, teachers should choose big ideas that they feel strongly about and that would complement their view of the whole child and the child's character education.

Following are some examples of big ideas that might anchor and guide teachers in the development of their long range plans:

- interdependence;
- independence;
- perseverance and determination;
- courage; bravery and risk-taking;
- co-operation to achieve goals;
- honesty and fairness;
- respect and courtesy;
- self-esteem;
- believing in yourself and pride;
- caring;

- compassion towards others;
- consistency;
- diligence;
- tolerance;
- efficiency
- integrity;
- confidence;
- adaptability;
- interconnectedness;
- empathy;
- decision-making;
- self-direction;
- leadership;
- inclusiveness;
- resourcefulness;
- creative problem solving;
- truthfulness; and
- persuasiveness.

Use your long-range plans as an overview roadmap so you don't need to be planning along the way.

ETFO member

REFLECT

How can I make this happen in my classroom?

