



Fact Sheet

BACKGROUND

FISH! For Schools™ is a K-12 staff development and student leadership curriculum from Minneapolis-based ChartHouse Learning, home of The FISH! Philosophy®. FISH! For Schools is helping educators rediscover the reason they became a teacher by establishing strong, effective learning communities that allow them to focus on student achievement instead of classroom management. The curriculum is the first industry-focused tool based on The FISH! Philosophy, a life-long philosophy offering fresh inspiration to help people feel more alive and engaged in the work they do.

Introduced to the U.S. education market in January 2004 and to the Canadian market in January 2005, FISH! For Schools is making a big impact in the education community. Only a year after its introduction, nearly 2,500 K-12 classrooms across 49 states have incorporated the philosophy. In 2004, ChartHouse Learning also launched its first full-school study site at Gage Elementary in Rochester, Minn.

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

A 2003 Wake Forest University study found that student behavior management is one of the biggest challenges teachers face in classrooms today. The result is increased time spent on classroom management instead of teaching and learning.

Numerous other studies have consistently found a strong connection between a supportive school culture, high student achievement and student behavior. A 2003 study by the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development discovered that teachers who had high-quality relationships with their students had 31 percent fewer discipline problems than teachers who did not have those connections.

FISH! For Schools taps into these insights by focusing on the way educators, students and parents relate to one another. This provides a common language and framework for everyone, and transforms classrooms and schools into more effective learning environments.

THE TOOLS

Since the introduction of The FISH! Philosophy in 1998, hundreds of teachers have adapted it for use in their classrooms. In response, ChartHouse Learning assembled a team of teachers, educators and curriculum developers to modify The FISH! Philosophy and create a specific tool for the education community. Designed by educators for educators, FISH! For Schools combines original research-based staff development materials and classroom exercises that are tailored to the developmental needs of K-12 teachers and students.

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ChartHouse Learning

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The FISH! For Schools curriculum focuses on:

- Positive classroom management;
- Development of the whole student as an engaged learner;
- Personal responsibility and internal motivation for staff and students;
- Positive and nurturing school environments;
- Teacher development and retention;
- Safe and playful learning communities.

FISH! For Schools focuses on the four key principles of The FISH! Philosophy: Be There, Play, Make Their Day, and Choose Your Attitude. It is tailored to age groups with specific curricula, called Expedition Packs, for K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Expedition Packs include The Guided Journey for staff development and Expedition Guides for use with students. Expedition Packs provide a number of classroom tools such as a DVD/video course, staff journal, classroom posters, Culture Connection conversation starters, age-specific situation cards, a variety of reproducible materials, and fun items including Pete the Perch.

In addition, ChartHouse Learning conducts FISH! For Schools LIVE events across the country, throughout the year. A free sample DVD, information on LIVE events, pricing and success stories can be found at www.fishforschools.com or by calling 866 398 6765 to speak with a FISH! Journey Guide.

ABOUT CHARTHOUSE LEARNING AND THE FISH! PHILOSOPHY

ChartHouse Learning is the home of The FISH! Philosophy, a life-long philosophy offering fresh inspiration to help people feel more alive and engaged in the work they do. ChartHouse Learning's FISH! Philosophy earned Pine and Gilmore's national "Experience Stager of the Year" award in 2004.

The FISH! Philosophy was developed in 1998 by filmmaker and ChartHouse Learning CEO John Christensen. FISH! is based on his observations of the inspiring way in which the fishmongers of Seattle's Pike Place Fish Market approach their work everyday. Christensen translated his observations into four simple principles — Be There, Play, Make Their Day and Choose Your Attitude — and created the film, *FISH! Catch The Energy, Release The Potential*. The film has been translated into 17 languages in 32 countries to date and is the foundation for six additional FISH! films. The global bestseller, *FISH! A Remarkable Way to Boost Morale and Improve Results*, was published in 2000. It has been translated into 34 languages and sold more than 3 million copies. The *FISH! Tales* book has spawned over 500,000 copies and the *FISH! Sticks* book is swimming with more than 250,000 copies.

ChartHouse Learning in 2004 introduced its first industry-focused tools, FISH! For Schools and FISH! For College™, to meet the needs of educators and student leaders. More information is available at www.fishphilosophy.com, www.fishforschools.com and www.fishforcollege.com.

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