



Values Auction

Secondary Lesson Plan

Values:

Values are the moral standards and principles that an individual holds important in their life. Values guide decisions, influence behavior, and shape goals. When a student's actions and goals align with their values, they achieve a greater sense of integrity and fulfillment. Living in alignment with your values is crucial for feeling that your life has meaning and purpose.

Objective:

Students will be able to evaluate what values are important to them by collaborating and discussing with peers.

Materials:

- A set of Values Auction cards for each group of 4-5 students (provided).
- \$2,000 (we recommend 20 \$100 bills) of play money per group.
- Optional: a gavel for use during the auction (extra fun 😊).

Activity Steps:

- An optional opening is having students explore video clips that demonstrate various values. The following are a few examples:
 - ♦ [Courage](#): a school janitor auditions for American Idol.
 - ♦ [Creativity](#): 10-year-old rocks the America's Got Talent stage.
 - ♦ [Empathy](#): Kid gives his shoes to barefoot boy playing basketball.
 - ♦ [Gratitude](#): What is Gratitude?
 - ♦ [Trust](#): Students share what trust involves.
 - ♦ [Equality](#): Children in Norway are asked to complete a task. On completion they are rewarded with sweets – but the boy gets far more than the girl.

- Ask students what they know about an auction. Explain that at an auction people bid against each other for items they really want.
- Ask students what values are important to them. Explain that in this activity, students will be bidding for the values they most want in their lives.
- Distribute the Values Auction cards to each group and provide time for them to discuss what values they want to try and buy in the auction.
- Conduct the auction. Have students bid as teams for the values they want and think are most important.
- Do your best to create a fun auction-like experience as groups increase their bids, and slam the gavel (if using one) when each value is sold. Identify an auction assistant. After each value is auctioned off, the assistant collects that Value Auction card from each group that did not win the bid. The winning team hands their money to the auction assistant and keeps their card.



Note: Teams are able to buy more than one value but may not spend more than their \$2,000 in total at the auction.

Personal Reflection:

- How do you resolve conflicts when individuals value different things?
- Describe a situation when you have taken action that reflects your core values.

Group Discussion:

- Which values were most highly desired? Why?
- Which were not? Why?
- What does society value most?
- What do we most value at school?
- Why is it important to clarify your values?
- How do your values connect to your purpose?

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Extended Learning:

Share the following scenarios with the class. Have students discuss in small groups and then share their thinking with the class.

Suss Student Suspension: A student is getting a ten-day suspension for creating a fake X (formerly Twitter) account that posts mean remarks about teachers and students. The principal doesn't seem to like this student who frequently gets in trouble. You know that it was actually someone else who did it, someone who never gets in trouble and that the principal seems to like. What do you do and why?

Cross-Country Cheater: You run cross-country for your school. During a race, one of your teammates whispers to you that they know a short cut and you won't get caught. Around the next turn in the trail, they take a hard left and no one sees them take the short cut. Your team wins the meet. What do you do and why?

Gossip Girls & Guys: Your friends are talking badly about someone. They are saying things that you know are not true but are really scandalous. They ask your opinion. How do you handle this situation and why?

Detention Dilemma: During class you threw something across the room. The teacher blames someone else and gives them a detention. If you get another detention, you will get suspended and won't be able to play in your sport this weekend. What do you do and why?

What Is Fair? The principal asks you to help organize an assembly for students. You can choose five students to help you lead the planning. Many students want to help including several of your friends. How do you choose students in a way that is fair and why?

Speak Up or Stay Silent? In one of your classes, tests are taken on an iPad and students can easily access notes during the test, but the teacher doesn't know. A lot of students are doing this. What do you do and why?

Cafeteria Change: After paying for lunch, you realize the cafeteria worker gave you too much change. What would you do and why?

Notes

Values Auction

Courage

Standing up for one's beliefs despite fear.



Values Auction

Creativity

Valuing original thought and expression.



Values Auction

Empathy

Understanding and sharing the feelings of others.



Values Auction

Equality

Believing in equal rights and opportunities for all.



Values Auction

Freedom

Valuing independence and autonomy.



Values Auction

Generosity

Giving freely to others without expecting anything in return.



Values Auction

Gratitude

Being thankful for what one has.



Values Auction

Honesty

Being truthful and sincere.



Values Auction

Love

Caring deeply for others.



Values Auction

Security

Valuing safety and stability in life.



Values Auction

Trust

Being reliable and trustworthy in relationships.



Values Auction

Wisdom

Having deep understanding and insight.

