



Discuss and Decide

Voice:

This activity asks students to think about some situations and decide what they might do in each one.

Objective:

Students will be able to identify leadership behavior in various situations.

Materials:

Decision making cards.

Steps:

- Warm-up discussion: What types of decisions do you make every day? How do you make a decision?
- Break students into groups of three.
- Give each group a few scenario cards. After the groups have finished discussing, bring the class together.
 - **Gossip:** While out at recess, you overhear some students talking about another student. You cannot believe what they are saying. Is it true? You want to say something, but then the group might talk about you. What do you do?
 - **She Took My Homework:** While at lunch, you and some other students were working on your homework. In class when you go to turn in your papers, you notice that someone has yours. The other student claims it is hers. What do you do?
 - **Last Pick:** In gym class, your teacher asks you to be a captain and choose students for the team. You are excited to be the captain. When it comes time to pick teammates, you immediately pick the best players. Then you notice the kids who are still waiting to be picked. They look nervous and sad. What do you do?
 - **Homework Help:** You have a big assignment due for school. Your sister says she remembers doing the same assignment and she might even have her old copy. You could just use her assignment and make everything easy. What would you do?

- **Extra Money:** Your class is collecting money for a field trip. One student is in charge of all the money. He thinks you have already paid and you know you never paid. Your mom gave you money this morning, but you could really use the extra money for something else. What do you do?
 - **Teasing:** Walking to class, you hear older kids making fun of a student who dresses differently. The kid walks away, but you know it bothers her. You can keep walking or say something, but then you might be teased. What do you do?
 - **Project People:** Your teacher puts you in a group with three students you do not like. As a group you must work together for two days. The other students talk all the time and don't seem to listen to you or your ideas. What do you do?
 - **My Voice and Choice:** Your teacher has asked you for one suggestion to make the class a better place for all students. You can think of many ideas that would make the class better for you personally. What suggestion do you make to your teacher?
 - **Substitute Shenanigans:** Some of your friends want to play a trick on the substitute teacher. You do not think anyone will get hurt and you think it's funny. What do you do?
- Talk with the class about how they made decisions. Ask: What was difficult about making their decisions, and what they decided in each situation?

Personal Reflection:

Pick one of the following individual challenges. Reflect on what you learned.

- Admit your mistakes next time you are wrong.
- Share your opinions and ideas about your classroom with your teacher.
- Make your own decisions rather than following your friends.
- Write a letter to the principal suggesting an idea to improve the school.
- Read an editorial in a local paper. Write back to the paper in response..

Group Reflection:

Talk through each scenario and identify positive and negative consequences. Do good leaders think about the positive and negative consequences beforehand? When have you thought about the consequences before making a decision? List examples on the board.

Sometimes there is not a right and a wrong decision; rather, we have to choose between two rights. Have students generate examples.

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<p>Homework Help: You have a big assignment due for school. Your sister says she remembers doing the same assignment and she might even have her old copy. You could just use her assignment and make everything easy. What would you do?</p>	<p>Extra Money: Your class is collecting money for a field trip. One student is in charge of all the money. He thinks you have already paid and you know you never paid. Your mom gave you money this morning but you could really use the extra money for something else. What do you do?</p>	<p>Teasing: Walking to class, you hear older kids making fun of a student who dresses differently. The kid walks away, but you know it bothers her. You can keep walking or say something, but then you might be teased. What do you do?</p>
<p>Project People: Your teacher puts you in a group with three students you do not like. As a group you must work together for two days. The other students talk all the time and don't seem to listen to you or your ideas. What do you do?</p>	<p>My Voice and Choice: Your teacher has asked you for one suggestion to make the class a better place for all students. You can think of many ideas that would make the class better for you personally. What suggestion do you make to your teacher?</p>	<p>Substitute Shenanigans: Some of your friends want to play a trick on the substitute teacher. You do not think anyone will get hurt and you think it's funny. What do you do?</p>

