

DECISION-MAKING



Time Required: 30-45 minutes

Principles:

- Students will make decisions, set goals, and take necessary action to achieve goals.

Objectives (Students will...):

- Use a decision-making and a problem-solving model.

GOAL: Students will use decision-making skills to solve a practical problem.

Activity Statements:

Students will adapt their decision-making skills to a group activity.

Students will work together to solve a physical challenge.

Students will collaborate to create a unique group project.

Materials:

1. Attachment A – “The Story of Your People”
2. Pencils, Paper, Colored Pencils

Procedures and Discussion Guidelines:

Part I:

1. **Before students arrive:** On the board, write the “3 C’s” problem-solving model:
 - a. IDENTIFY THE CHALLENGE
 - b. DETERMINE YOUR CHOICES
 - c. WEIGH THE CONSEQUENCES
2. When students are seated, ask: Do we all make decisions the same way? What kinds of decisions require strategizing before hand?
3. Point to the board and discuss the “3 Cs” process with the class.
4. Ask: Have you seen this process in action outside the classroom?
5. Say: Using the 3 Cs model will help you make good decisions. And it’s not only true for you as individuals, but it’s also helpful when you’re part of a group.

DECISION-MAKING

Today, we're going to play some games that rely on group decisions, and we'll put the 3 Cs to the test.

Part II:

1. Tell the students that you are going to read them a story, which will be the basis for a group activity. While they're listening, they are to imagine they are all one "people," and the story is about them.
2. Read Attachment A – "The Story of Your People" – aloud.
3. Say, "Usually, when a group faces a dilemma like the one described in the story, some people will think, 'I can live with that,' and others will think, 'It's time to leave.'" And, of course, there will be pros and cons to both sides. To decide what your people should do, you're going to break into small groups, weigh the pros and cons of staying and leaving, and make a group decision as to which you think is right. Then, each group will present their decision to the others.
4. Divide the students into groups of 5-6. Instruct them to use the 3 Cs model to weigh their options and decide. They must write everything down (challenge, choices, consequences) and be ready to present it quickly.

Additional Resources:

Decision-Making Power Point Presentation:

<http://www.slideshare.net/readyssetpresent/problem-solving-powerpoint/>

Extension Activities:

Suggest that students play this game with friends, family, or any other group to which they belong. Invite them to report back to the class with the results.

Activity:

- a. To "try out" real-life decision making in jobs (and to show the importance of good decision making), have the students go to the [Explore Careers](#) section in CFWV.com.
- b. Then ask them to select a career cluster that appeals to them.
- c. From the list of careers in that cluster, choose one that has "Insider Info Only"
- d. From the tabs on the left side of the page, choose "Real Life Activities"
- e. Have the student try out the "Real-Life Decision Making" question for that career

Resources:

The Roads to Success lessons have been correlated to the inventories and assessments found in CFWV.com