

Social Studies Lesson

Instructor:

Time: 15-20 Minutes

Understanding Ethics in the Workplace

Lesson Goal: Students will be able to understand and apply ethics and its terms to real world applications. Students will be able to write and understand the use and practice of ethics in their daily work lives. This process is informal. The idea is to engage students in a dialogue that helps them to see how ethics and knowing their rights and responsibilities will help them succeed in the workplace.

Instructors, use your experience in the workplace to help guide the process. The students should look at the cartoon and the ethical idea and write their thoughts on the matter. Explain that the whole group will be reading their thoughts aloud. This will help them to detail their thoughts in a logical manner, help them to practice their writing and prepare them to express their opinions in a way that will be effective and professional. Then after all are finished, have the students read their thoughts aloud and discuss the ideas as a whole class. Doing the exercise this way will keep students engaged, yet will not allow for frivolous writing.

Materials:

1. Websites: <http://www.glasbergen.com/> <http://www.cagle.com/>
2. Paper and pencil

Performance Objectives:

1. Students will understand and discuss ethics as it affects workers and employers.
2. Students write their thoughts about the topics discussed in class.
3. Students discuss their ideas in a non-threatening way.
4. Students learn to take constructive criticism from their instructor and peers.

Teaching Activities:

1. Choose a cartoon. Explain and discuss the ideas in each lesson.
2. Discuss the ideas that are written about.
3. Help direct students to understand and, in some cases, redirect their thoughts of the ideas being discussed.
4. Help students to relate the ideas to their potential job or existing job.

Student Activities:

1. Think about and write a paragraph about the ethics question.
2. Participate in class discussion.
3. Do class activity.
4. Ask questions as needed.

Reflections on the Lesson:

Social Studies Lesson

Class Meeting 1

What is Ethics?

1. Define ethics: Have students give their ideas on ethics and what ethics means to them.
2. Give definition of ethics: *The body of moral principles or values governing, or distinctive of, a particular culture or group.*
3. Discuss how their answers are the same and different from the definition. Ask if they know of some others who have differing ethics from their own ideas.

Class Meeting 2

What are Morals and Values?

Define the morals and values you live under in your daily lives.

Class Meeting 3

Lying? Good thing or Bad Thing?

Is lying on a resume or during an interview a good thing? Why or why not?

Class Meeting 4

Are first impressions important in an interview process?

What do you think is the appropriate dress for an interview for a male? For a female?

Class Meeting 5

What is your "reputation" and is it important? Why or why not?

Class Meeting 6

When do you feel it is acceptable to ask for a raise?

Social Studies Lesson

Class Meeting 7

Do you think it is acceptable to steal from your company?

Class Meeting 8

Do you think it is acceptable to be late for work?

Class Meeting 9

Is it reasonable to take an extra 5 minutes for a break or lunch?

Class Meeting 10

What time is appropriate to be at your workstation ready for work?

Class Meeting 11

When is it acceptable to take personal phone calls at work?

Class Meeting 12

Do you think it is OK to go to the bathroom during work?

Class Meeting 13

Who is responsible for customer service in a company?

Class Meeting 14

What goes into teamwork at a company?

Class Meeting 15

What is a mentor and do you think you might need one?

Social Studies Lesson

Class Meeting 16

Should you follow the rules at work?

Class Meeting 17

Is violence ever the answer in the workplace?

Class Meeting 18

What does sexual harassment mean to you?