

## RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING



### LESSON SUMMARY

BENCHMARK
<b>SS.K.CG.2.2</b> <i>Describe ways for groups to make decisions.</i>
BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Students will practice decision-making in small and large groups through voting, taking turns, class meetings, and discussion.</li><li>■ Students will identify examples of responsible decisions.</li></ul>
CORRELATED FLORIDA STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>ELA.K.12.EE.4.1</b> <i>Use appropriate collaborative techniques and active listening skills when engaging in discussions in a variety of situations.</i></li><li>■ <b>ELA.K.C.1.3</b> <i>Using a combination of drawing, dictating, and/or writing, express opinions about a topic or text with at least one supporting reason.</i></li><li>■ <b>HE.K.R.4.2:</b> <i>Identify the importance of sharing thoughts and ideas to solve problems.</i></li><li>■ <b>HE.K.R.1.2:</b> <i>Demonstrate the ability to take turns and share with others.</i></li></ul>
ESSENTIAL QUESTION
How can our class make responsible decisions?
VOCABULARY
responsible, decision
MATERIALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Responsible Decision-Making poster</li><li>■ <i>Talk and Work it Out</i> by Cheri J. Meiners (optional)</li></ul>

## ACTIVITY SEQUENCE

### INTRODUCTION/HOOK

**Teacher Note:** For this lesson to be most effective, the teacher will need to create an enticing scenario in which a class decision will need to be made. Examples could include: you have treats that need to be shared, you have to select a new line leader, you have 15 extra minutes of structured free time...etc.

1. Announce to students that you have a big decision that you need help making.

### ACTIVITY

2. Have students gather around and announce that you will be having a class meeting so that the students can help in the decision-making process.
3. Present the chosen scenario.
4. Lead your students to the understanding that responsible citizens know that everyone's opinions and ideas are important and valued. We can't just let one person make all the decisions for everyone all the time. A teacher might use a class meeting to make sure they can hear everyone's thoughts on a topic.
5. Share with students that there are many ways groups can make responsible decisions. Allow students to take turns sharing their ideas for how to best approach the scenario you have presented to them. When students share, others should actively listen.

**Teacher Note:** Some student answers may be more about the decision-making strategy that should be used (ex. "We could talk about it") while others may offer tangible solutions to the scenario (ex. "Everyone should get 2 cookies"). Encourage both. If the students don't mention taking a vote, gently lead them in that direction towards the end of the class meeting as a way to come to a consensus.

### CLOSURE/FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

6. Display the "Responsible Decision-Making" poster.
7. Call on different students to identify which of these decision-making strategies we just used to make our class decision.

**Teacher Note:** This poster could be displayed in your room throughout the year and referenced when different decisions need to be reached. Each strategy should be practiced as frequently as possible to ensure students are comfortable and familiar with each method. Feel free to add more that apply to your classroom. (Timers for taking turns, playing Rock, Paper, Scissors to solve issues, Would You Rather scenarios, etc.).

**Teacher Note:** The read aloud shared in Additional Resources may be used in addition to the closing activity above, but additional time should be reserved to account for the book's length. Students will be able to identify responsible decision-making practices the characters in the text engage in that are similar to the ones used in this lesson.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
<p>FJCC/LFI Website</p> <p>Read Aloud: <i>Talk and Work it Out</i> by Cheri J. Meiners</p> <p>Supporting Florida State Statutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Florida State Statute 1003.42: Required Instruction</a> (#4 a-e)</li> </ul>
ANSWER KEYS
n/a
SOURCES
n/a