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**Class Rules**

Which class rule is the most important?

**Grade: K**

**Social Studies Benchmarks:**

**SS.K.E.1.1** Describe different kinds of jobs that people do and the tools or equipment used.

**SS.K.C.1.1** Define and give examples of rules and laws, and why they are important.

**English/Language Arts Standards:**

**LAFS.K.RI.1.1** With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

**LAFS.K.RI.3.7** With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the text describe its key ideas. in which they appear (e.g., what person, place, thing, or idea in the text an illustration depicts).

**LAFS.K.W.3.8** With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

**LAFS.K.SL.1.1** Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about *kindergarten topics and texts* with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

* Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others and taking turns speaking about the topics and texts under discussion).
* Continue a conversation through multiple exchanges.

For this decision-making lesson, students will discuss criteria for choosing the classroom rule that should be taught first for a new kindergarten teacher based on information provided from Internet resources. Using this information, students will rank their choices and explain how they reached those decisions.

**Problem**

Which classroom rule should be taught first?

**Alternatives**

Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself; Follow directions the first time they are given; Treat each other with respect; Keep your desk clean

**Criteria**

Safety, organization, and good manners

**Decision**

Which rule should a teacher teach first?

1. Read the letter from Ms. Lovely to the students. Ask students what Ms. Lovely’s job is (teacher). Discuss the different tools that teachers use and why classroom rules help the classroom run efficiently.
2. Discuss what Ms. Lovely needs (help with choosing the most important classroom rule) as well as the alternatives and criteria.
   1. Show the video about following classroom rules: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQxK-Ah7has>
      1. Note: Teachers can use any other videos that support their own classroom rules. Teachers can also revise the rules on the note-taking tool and decision-making matrix.
3. Use the note-taking tool to make shared notes using ideas from each text. Use the illustrations to discuss what happens when classroom rules are not followed.
4. Provide students with the decision-making matrix (individually or in groups).
   1. Discuss the criteria related to safety. How many smiley faces would the students think each rule should get related to safety: Students can color in the number of smiley faces they think each rule should get.
   2. This can be done whole group or with small groups.
5. Continue this process to discuss organization and good manners
6. In teams of three or four, students work on the problem (figuring out the best rule to teach first). Continue to rank the rules from the first to teach to the last and respond to Ms. Lovely by writing a letter (whole class, small group, or individually). A frame (see below) can also be used.

Guiding/reflective Questions

* Which rule would be best for Ms. Lovely to teach first?
* Why do you think that would be the best choice?
* What category/criteria was the most important to you?
* Why is this factor the most important to you?
* Do you agree with your group's ideas? Why or why not?

Dear Ms. Lovely,

Here is how we ranked each class rule:

#1 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

#2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

#3 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

#4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

We think you should teach \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ first. We based our decision on the following criteria: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you,

Extension/ideas:

* Have student groups present their decisions to the class and discuss how they decided the order in which the rules should be taught.
* Create a poster that highlights the importance of following classroom rules.
* Read more about school and community rules at ReadWorks: <https://www.readworks.org/find-content#!q:classroom+rules/g:16/t:0/f:0/lc:/l:[]/pt:/features:/>

Differentiation:

* Reduce alternatives and/or criteria.
* Increase alternatives and/or criteria.
* Increase the number of pictures related to the alternatives and/or criteria.