



**Time
Required:
45 minutes**

**Grade Level:
6th -12th
grades**

Skills for the 21st Century Marketplace Activity
Written by: Dwayne Hawkins
Last Modified: 06/23/11

Classroom Code of Ethics

Infusionomics Themes, Keystone Economic Principles, and Skills for the 21st Century Marketplace:

• **THEME: CHOICES**

- **Keystone Economic Principle™ #1:** We all make choices
- **Keystone Economics Principle™ # 3:** All Choices Have Consequences
- **Skills:** 3. Ethics

** For additional standards and content references, please see the [end of document](#).

Overview: The students will create a code of ethics to govern their classroom behavior.

Objectives:

The students will gain an appreciation for the importance of ethical behavior and how to come to consensus on ethical values.

Materials and Handouts:

Video or projection equipment to show a YouTube video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2s7pjs_HOE8&feature=related

Activity:

- Watch the video http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2s7pjs_HOE8&feature=related
- Have students form groups of 3 to 4 people
 - Assign one student to record responses for the group
- Begin by asking students the following questions
 - What is your personal definition of ethics?
 - Why is it important to discuss ethical concepts and behaviors?
 - What is the benefit of establishing a code of ethics that are shared by everyone in the class?
- Have groups share their responses with the class
 - As a class brainstorm a list of values (words) to be considered for the class code of ethics
 - Assign one person to write answers on the board

- Tell students to just say out loud any words (values) that come to mind.
- The volunteer should write down all words.
- Instructs students not to comment on any of the values at this point.
- The list should be as large as possible (at least 30-40) words.
- Next have each student choose the top five values from the list using the following selection criteria.
 - Must be an ethical value. Ask the question, “If Johnny is not _____ does that make him unethical?” Values like creative and beautiful would not fit the criteria.
 - Must be the best representative for clusters of meaning.
 - Avoid overarching terms like good.
- Break class back into the groups of 3 to 4 students and engage in a collaborative discussion. The objective is for the group to come up with one list of 5 values that everyone can agree on. Encourage the groups to seek for consensus not unanimous agreement.
- Have each group share their list with the class.
- Use the group list as a starting point to come up the top 5 values for the class.

Additional Standards and Content References

Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics:

- Standard #2 : Decision Making; Benefit, Costs
- Standard #10: Institutions: Legal and Social Framework

Partnership for 21st Century Life Skills Concept:

- Life and Career Skills>leadership and responsibility>be responsible to others>act responsibly with the interests of the larger community in mind

National Content Standards for Entrepreneurship Education:

- Entrepreneurial Skills; B. Entrepreneurial Traits/Behaviors, B.04 Demonstrate Ethical Work Habits

Keystone Economic Principles™:

- For more information: http://infusionomics.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/Keystone_Cheat.pdf