

Assessment

Assessment is an important aspect of any curriculum. While it is not recommended that the Pretest be used for a student grade, it is important that student knowledge, attitudes and participation be assessed while studying *Play by the Rules*. The alternative assessments below are provided for your use and are designed to be implemented with limited preparation.

Play by the Rules Scoreboard:

Have each student create a portfolio, or *Play by the Rules* Scoreboard, for use during the entire study of *Play by the Rules*. You can provide each student a manila folder or have students make a special section in their class notebook for this purpose. The students will need paper for a journal and space to keep worksheets. If students use manila folders, create a box or special place in your classroom to keep the Scoreboards at the end of each day. If time permits, have students decorate their folders or create a cover page for the Scoreboard.

At the beginning of each day, ask students to write in their journal (for no more than five minutes) about the previous day's lesson. To conserve classroom instructional time, this may be done as you check roll. You may use one of the prompts below or create one of your own. Provide a different prompt each day.

- Yesterday I learned ...
- What I have learned can impact my life by ...
- If I could change/make a law, it would be ...
- We need a law about _____, because ...
- I will use the information I have learned by ...
- The most interesting thing I have learned is ...
- My favorite law is _____, because ...
- I would like to know more about ...

Each assigned worksheet should be placed in the students' Scoreboards for assessment.

Use the rubric provided below to assess the students' Scoreboards. Scoreboards may be collected for assessment as needed.

	Poor	Basic	Excellent
Requirements	Few requirements were met	Most requirements were met	All requirements were met or exceeded
Organization	No clear organization	Content is somewhat organized	Content is well organized
Content	Content contains many factual errors	Content contains few factual errors with few details or examples	Content is detailed and includes examples

Batter-Up Questions:

Each night, students will be assigned Batter-Up Questions which correspond to the chapter studied. Review the answers daily. Batter-Up Questions can be collected daily, weekly or at the end of studying *Play by the Rules* for a grade.

Class Participation:

Play by the Rules contains many interactive lessons. Studies show that interactive lessons are essential components of law-related education and the development of positive attitudes and civic participation. Use the rubric provided to assess each student's participation.

	Poor	Basic	Excellent
Class Discussions	Poor contributions Interrupts often Puts down views of others	Good contributions Pays attention Builds on comments of others	Excellent contributions Actively engaged Respectful of others' views
Class Activities	Rarely engaged Often off task	Engaged often On task most of the time	Engaged most of the time On task consistently
Group Activities	Rarely completed his or her share Dominates group or isn't engaged at all	Helpful in completing his or her share Contributes and is engaged often	Completed his or her share Contributes but doesn't dominate and is engaged

Taking Home the Law:

Each day, students will be given a Taking Home the Law lesson to complete with their parents/guardians. Check for completion of the assignment.

Parent & Student Response Forms:

To encourage full participation, consider giving a grade or extra points to students who return the parental and student response forms.

Posttest:

After studying *Play by the Rules*, students will take the Posttest which can be used as a grade. Compare these scores with the Pretest in order to measure knowledge gain. These averages should be recorded on the Teacher Response Form found in the Appendix.