

NH ADULT WORKER LESSON PLANS

Focus Area:
Worker

Standard: Understands the value
of work, workers rights and responsibilities.

Objective: Students will be able to
identify ethics in the workplace.

Classroom Activities:

- Discuss the meaning of ethics in class. Look up ethics in the dictionary. Is there any way ethics differ from what is legal? (Look at Attachment 1.)
- Talk about situations in which you might have to make an ethical decision on the job. (Look at Attachment 2 for possible situations.)
 - Divide students into two groups to think about the questions in Appendix 2. Assign a point of view (not necessarily the student's own. List all the reasons you can think of why somebody might have this point of view.)
 - Ask students for ethics issues they have seen or heard about in the workplace. Ask each student to choose one to think about and to decide what he/she would do in the situation. Discuss the results.
- Ask students to think of a time they felt a worker's rights were violated. Was the employer's action legal? Was it ethical? Why or why not?

Writing Practice:

1. Write "Dear Abby" questions and answers about ethical dilemmas in the workplace, i.e., knowing that a co-worker is doing less than his/her share of the work and trying to decide whether to report it to a supervisor.
2. Choose one of the work situations discussed in class. Write a scenario with two different endings, depending on the choice a character makes.

Vocabulary:

- ethics
- ethical
- law
- moral
- legal
- rights
- responsibilities

Extensions:

View videos about worker rights. (For example, English for All is designed for ESOL learners but includes good examples of worker rights issues that could serve as a basis for discussion for anyone. Contact the NH Bureau of Adult Education for information about these videos.)