

Common Law-Related Education Strategies

The Law School Game

By Marty Conaty and the students at Hennepin County Home School

This activity can be used as a way to review any subject area.

Teacher Instructions

1. Have the students create their own law school by writing on 8 ½ x 11 sheets of paper terms that come from the law or law school experience. For example, the words “passed law exam” could be written in large letters on one sheet of paper. Other suggested terms include:
 - Names of courses such as contracts, constitutional law, torts, criminal law, education law, criminal procedure, juvenile law, family law, business law.
 - Study terms such as library, study break, study group, studying for test
 - Performance terms such as passed test, failed test, rewrite brief, brief wins top honors roll again, skipped a class go back three, quiz answer another question
 - Game instruction terms such as go back one, take a study break and lose one turn, go to library, got an “A”, jump ahead three
2. Students tape the sheets of paper together to make a square (similar to a Monopoly game). The square will be large, 8 to 10 squares on a side. Admitted to law school will be the first square, graduated from law school will be the last square.
3. Students also write the questions that they will have to answer. They can write questions for each unit of study. Questions should be short answer, true/false, or yes/no. Each question should be written on a 3 x 5 cards.

To play the game:

1. Divide the class into groups of 3-5. Each group will have one representative stand next to the Admitted to Law School Square on the game board.
2. The first student is asked a question. If he or she gives the correct answer, the student rolls the dice (a regular dice works fine, but a larger one that every one can see will be better). The student moves onto the game board and goes forward the number on the dice.

3. If the student does not give the correct answer, he or she must wait until the next round to try again.
4. A question is asked of a representative from the next team, and so on until each team has answered a question.
5. The students on the board switch places with someone else from their team. In this way, everyone gets to stand on the game board and everyone gets to answer a question.
6. If questions are difficult, the team might be permitted to work together to get the answer.
7. The team with the first representative to graduate from law school wins the game.