

NEW MEXICO 4-H

Aggie Next Step

Responsibility



Post Secondary Pathways



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Responsibility

INTRODUCTION

Personal responsibility means owning your actions, following through on commitments, and learning from mistakes. In this lesson, participants will explore what it means to be responsible and how it can build trust, confidence, and stronger relationships in their lives.

SET UP

Review lesson materials and determine which worksheets and handouts you will use for the lesson. Print enough pre/post assessments, worksheets, and handouts for each participant.

ACTIVITY

1. Begin by having participants complete *Pre-assessment*.
 2. Facilitate a group discussion using questions like:
 - Q: *What does responsibility mean to you?*
 - Q: *What are some things you are responsible for at school, home, or work?*
 - Q: *How can you show responsibility in everyday actions?*
 - Q: *What are the benefits of taking responsibility for your actions?*
 3. Distribute the *How Responsible Am I?* worksheet. Explain: *This is a chance to honestly reflect on your own habits and choices. It's about growth, not perfection.*
- After completing the questionnaire, facilitate a discussion on patterns noticed and areas of growth. Ask volunteers to share on responsibility they want to focus on improving.
4. Continue the discussion using the questions below.
 - Q. *Do we get to choose everything we are responsible for?*
 - Q. *What are some sources of our responsibilities?*
 - Q. *Is it fair that we must fulfill responsibilities we didn't choose?*
 5. Distribute *Sources of Responsibility* and briefly review each source with the group.
- Ask participants to share a personal responsibility and identify its source. Aim to touch on all eight sources through participant examples.

Supplies

- Worksheets
- Handouts
- Pens/Pencils
- Ball (optional)

OUTCOMES

Students will be able to:

- **Define** personal responsibility and explain its importance
- **Identify** different sources of responsibility
- **Recognize** which responsibilities are chosen, assigned, or assumed
- **Reflect** on how their actions affect themselves and others
- **Apply** responsible decision-making in realistic situations



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6. Distribute *My Responsibilities Chart*. Allow time for students to complete it individually or in small groups.
7. Distribute *Responsible Response* handout. Discuss the importance of positive self-talk. Allow time for students to complete the reflection portion or use the reflection questions for group discussion.
8. Connect learning to extracurricular activities. Discuss current activities students participate in. Explore additional options from the student handbook or school website. Highlight benefits of participation, including responsibility, teamwork, and time management.
9. (Optional/Homework) Distribute *Responsibility Journal*. Encourage students to reflect on their responsibilities and progress.
10. Optional Extension Activities: See below for additional ideas to extend the lesson.
11. *Exit Ticket* – depending on time, this can be done as a class discussion, or students can complete the worksheet in class, as homework, or the following class.
- 12. Have participants complete *Post-assessment*.**

LESSON EXTENSION

Lesson Extension Activity Option 1: The Blame Game

The Blame Game:

- Use *The Blame Game* activity to help students recognize unproductive blaming behavior.
- Have students draw blame cards or act out blame scenarios.
- Facilitate a discussion on how shifting from blame to responsibility promotes positive habits and problem-solving.

Lesson Extension Activity Option 2: Responsibility Debate

Responsibility Debate:

- Use the *Responsibility Debate* scenarios to engage students in thoughtful dialogue.
- Assign teams or pairs and present them with scenarios to take sides on.
- Encourage respectful debate and reflection on how different viewpoints influence our sense of responsibility.



Responsibility

WRAP UP

Taking personal responsibility helps you grow into someone others can rely on, and someone you can be proud of. When you own your actions and do what's right, even when it's hard, you show leadership, earn trust, and shape a better future for yourself and others.

RESOURCES

NM Standards:

NM PED Standards: Career and Technical Education (CTE):

CTE 2.1.1: Select and employ appropriate reading and communication strategies

CTE 9.1.1: Identify and demonstrate the use of positive work behaviors and personal qualities to be employable

Common Career Technical Core (CCTC) Standards: Career Ready Practices (CRP):

CRP-1. Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee

CRP-5. Consider the environmental, social, and economic impacts of decisions

Optional ELA Alignment (Grades 6-12)

SL1: Participate in a range of conversations and collaborations

RI1: Read closely to determine what the text says

Video Resources:

Note: Please preview all videos before showing them to students to ensure they are age-appropriate, relevant, and aligned with your classroom needs.

Responsibility

50 Lessons on Leading - Integrity Personified – movie clip (2:21)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gIRTERPpfxU>

Responsibility for Kids (middle school) (2:15)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFvZtDqFYU4&list=PLJcUCLV0PazCHEh9hkAZknhjx08Rsek2Z>

Teenagers and Responsible Decision Making (6:30)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahhKyEw9xUc&t=379s>

Responsibility for teens (1:32)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPJDuaYk8dA&t=23s>

Personal Responsibility: The Ultimate Freedom (middle and high school) (4:54)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KGKfywR2JI4>



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