

## 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Health Remote Learning Day

As we get older, it's important to build our critical thinking skills. You will follow the steps to help you complete your assignment and strengthen your critical thinking skills.

Steps:

1. Review the decision-making chart.
2. Choose and read **ONE** of the short stories below.
3. Using the chart, fill out the Decision-Making Graphic Organizer.

If you need help, look at the example graphic organizer provided. Turn in your work to Ms. McLeod in room 131.

**Story 1:** Hamisi gets out of school at 3:00 and he has basketball practice at 5:00. He has a decision to make: What should he do between those times? He can think of a lot of choices. He could do the homework that is due tomorrow. His mother wants him to clean his room. He could eat because he's thinking about food and is hungry. He could play video games. He has also been considering hanging out with a group of boys he doesn't know very well. They get in trouble sometimes, but they seem to have a lot of fun. He wants to have fun because he has worked hard today.

**Story 2:** You are walking alone when you notice that someone is following you. You turn the corner, and he turns the corner. You stop to look in a store window, and he stops too. When you begin walking, he approaches you and asks you if you would like to go with him to the park. Decide what to do.

**Story 3:** You and your friends are playing football in a nearby lot. An older kid comes over and tries to get you and your friends to try an e-cigarette. The older kid tells you that these cigarettes are the safe ones. A couple of your friends try it. Now, it is passed to you. Decide what to do.

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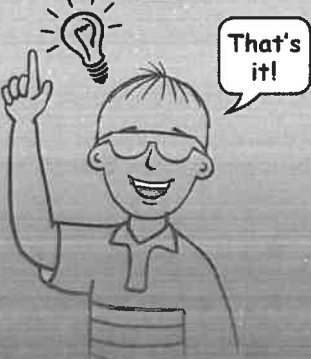
**Story 4:** You are home with a babysitter. You are coughing and coughing. The sitter goes into the medicine cabinet and gets some medicine for you to take. Decide what to do.

**Story 5:** You are riding a public bus or subway. A woman gets on and sits down next to you. Her breath smells as if she has been drinking and she is leaning against you. She asks you for some money. Decide what to do.

**Story 6:** While hoverboarding with some friends, an older kid you don't know threatens to punch you out if you don't let him try your board. Decide what to do.

**Story 7:** You are on the playground and a group of popular kids at school are bullying another kid. The group is making fun of how the kid is dressed and start to take off his coat. They look at you and tell you that if you say a word, they are coming after you. Decide what to do.

**Decision Making**

1. What is the decision? 
2. What are my choices? 
3. What are the pros and cons for each choice? 
4. How important are the consequences of each choice? 
5. Which is the better choice? 

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## Decisions, Decisions

"Hey, kid, want to make some money?" Cool Dude was walking home from school when he heard the woman call him. The woman looked friendly. She had white hair, just like Dude's grandmother and she was dressed nicely too.

"My kitten has run off," the woman told Dude. "Let's drive around and look for him. If you find him, I'll give you \$20."

Twenty dollars! The money sounded pretty good to Dude, especially since he was saving for a new game. For a split second, he was ready to hop into the car to help find the kitten. Then he remembered what he had learned about safety and he knew that he should never go anywhere with a stranger. Dude had a feeling that even a nice, older woman could mean trouble.

"No, sorry I can't help," said Dude, as he continued home.

Without knowing it, Cool Dude used the Decision Making Skill Steps.

1. He identified the problem. ("It's an easy way to make \$20, but should I go with someone I don't know?")
2. He thought about the choices he had. ("I can go with the woman, or I can continue home.")
3. He thought about the pros (positive things) and cons (negative things) of each choice.
4. He weighed the importance of each consequence. ("Getting \$20 is nice, but getting in trouble is very serious. This is a risky and possibly dangerous situation.")
5. He made the better (healthiest) choice. (To stay safe, he continued home.)

Cool Dude acted quickly and was very thoughtful when he made his decision. That is, he carefully considered his options and the consequences of each one before making a choice. On his way home, Cool Dude thought about the decision he just made. He felt proud of himself. He knew his mom was going to be proud of him too.



# What is the decision I have to make?

whether or not to get in the woman's car

## Option 1:

go with the woman

### PRO

make an easy \$20

find the kitten (possibility only, not a certainty)

### CON

she could be a kidnapper who could hurt Dude or worse

## Option 2:

continue home

### PRO

he would be safe

avoids a risky situation

### CON

he wouldn't get the \$20

## Option 3:

### PRO

### CON

## Better Choice:

continue home

# Decision-Making Graphic Organizer

What is the decision I have to make?

Choice 1:

Choice 2:

Choice 3:

Pros:

Pros:

Pros:

Cons:

Cons:

Cons:

Better Choice:

Underline the really important PROS and CONS.