

Teacher Discussion Guide

Applying Rules and Laws: How Savvy are You?

Rules, regulations, and laws are put in place to help us avoid harm and conflict and protect and keep us safe. With your group, discuss each scenario and determine the safest decision to make. During your conversations, consider the following:

- Which laws, rules or regulations do you think individuals may consider in each situation? Along with Government laws, consider the rules and regulations for your school, community and family.
- What factors may affect decisions in each scenario?
- Why do you think governments, communities, schools, and organizations believe these laws, rules and regulations are necessary?
- Share your personal views and opinions!

Scenario 1

- Morgan lives in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL). They are 18 years old. They want to buy a case of beer at the local corner store.**

The legal age in NL to purchase or consume alcohol is 19 years old.

The legal drinking age is 19 in all provinces/territories except Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec, where it is 18.

- Morgan's cousin, who is also 18, lives in Alberta. He wants to buy a case of beer and stay home and watch the hockey game with his friends.**

The legal age in Alberta to purchase or consume alcohol is 18 years old.

18 years is also the legal drinking age in Manitoba and Quebec. Provinces and territories may have different laws and regulations; always obey the laws of the province you are in.

Scenario 2

- Owen overhears their parents talking about their friend's daughter. She had been at a house party and had unknowingly consumed fentanyl. The daughter's friends called 911, who were able to help her in time. They administered naloxone and were able to save her.**

If you are witnessing an opioid overdose, stay and help. Call 911. Follow life-saving directions. Administer naloxone if available. The *Good Samaritan Law* protects you from charges related to underage substance use, drug possession, or outstanding warrants when assisting a person experiencing an overdose.

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Scenario 3

- Max's friends are hanging out playing video games since his family is away for the evening. He takes out a bottle of vodka to share with his friends. Danielle is tempted. However, she had taken medication for a headache earlier. Danielle also drove her dad's car to Max's house.**

Prescription medication and over-the-counter drugs can affect your driving ability, especially if combined with even a small amount of alcohol. Impaired driving is not limited to driving under the influence of alcohol. There is a zero-tolerance policy for driving after consuming any amount of alcohol for those novice drivers or those less than 22 years old.

Scenario 4

- Riley is enjoying the weekend at their family cabin. They want to go exploring on their ATV. They have been drinking beer all afternoon but insist they feel ok to drive the ATV. They plan to avoid the main roads.**

It is illegal for all drivers of all ages of any motorized vehicle (cars, boats, ATVs) to drive impaired. There is a zero-tolerance policy for novice drivers and drivers under 22. They will have their vehicles impounded if they have a blood alcohol level greater than zero.

Scenario 5

- Rowan and their friends are at a party celebrating a birthday. When it is time to leave, Rowan collects their leftover beer and alcohol to take home. Their friend who is driving them home won't let them take it in the car.**

It is illegal to possess alcohol in an open container where the seal has been broken in a private vehicle. Individuals found driving a vehicle containing open alcohol may face fines and charges. Drivers may also be asked to provide a breath sample, which could lead to other consequences if they are impaired.

Scenario 6

- Jordan and their friends enjoy hanging out in the skateboard park in the evenings. Lately, groups of young adults are also there drinking alcohol and vaping cannabis.**

In Newfoundland and Labrador, it is prohibited to consume alcohol or cannabis in public areas such as parks, beaches and walking trails; doing so could result in fines or other penalties.

Scenario 7

- Tom is enjoying the sun and relaxing with a few beers at their friend Sandy's summer cabin on the pond. Everyone is relaxed and enjoying swimming and water activities. Sandy offers Tom the family's new sea-doo to try out.**

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Scenario 8

- Spencer lives in Newfoundland and Labrador. Spencer's 19th birthday is on Monday, which is only two days away. They want to celebrate tonight with their friends and plan to drop into the liquor store to pick up some drinks.**

The legal age in NL to purchase or consume alcohol is 19 years old. Spencer cannot legally buy alcohol until they turn 19 on Monday. Adults found selling alcohol to someone underage may face charges and jail time.

Scenario 9

- Inna has invited her best friends over for the evening. They want to relax in the hot tub and enjoy some cocktails. She asked her parents to pick up some alcohol at the liquor store since none of them were of age. Inna and her friends are very responsible and only want to have a drink or two.**

It is illegal for anyone, even a parent, to provide alcohol to someone who is under the legal age; doing so could result in charges or jail time.

Scenario 10

- Joey is vacationing in Florida with his family. While they were having dinner at a local restaurant to celebrate his 19th birthday, they decided to order cocktail drinks for everyone.**

The legal age to buy alcohol in the United States is 21. Even though Joey is of legal age in Canada, it is illegal for them to purchase alcohol in Florida. When travelling to another country (or province), you must follow the legal age of the place you are visiting.

Scenario 11

- Maria is 17 years old. She wants to buy e-cigarettes at her local convenience store.**

It is prohibited to sell vape products to anyone under 19 in NL. Vapor products include e-cigarettes, e-substances, and cartridges for or components of e-cigarettes.

Scenario 12

- Jillian, who is 16, is visiting her pop at the hospital with her dad. She decides to go outside for a smoke.**

In Newfoundland and Labrador, it is prohibited to smoke or vape on any NL Health Services property, including the grounds and parking lots; this includes hospitals and other healthcare facilities.

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Also, the legal age to buy tobacco in Newfoundland is 19, meaning that Jillian is underage.

Scenario 13

- Kai is heading to their Under 15 provincial volleyball tournament. They are getting a ride with a friend's dad, who likes to vape while driving.**

The Smoke-Free Environment Act of 2005 prohibits the use of electronic cigarettes in motor vehicles while persons under the age of 16 are present.

Scenario 14

- Anna, 17, babysits her neighbour's children, ages 8 and 10, on Saturdays. Sometimes, she takes them in her vehicle to go to the park or their swimming lessons. Anna likes to vape nicotine but opts not to when the children are with her.**

The Smoke-Free Environment Act of 2005 prohibits the use of electronic cigarettes in motor vehicles while persons under the age of 16 are present. While Anna is obeying this rule, she is not of legal age to buy or possess nicotine products in Newfoundland and Labrador (e.g., 19+).

Scenario 15

- Taylor is hanging out in the shed, working on their quad with their friends. They want to vape, but no one has a vape with them. Taylor's 19-year-old brother offers to get a vape for them.**

The *Tobacco and Vaping Products Act* prohibits retailers or other persons from providing tobacco to a person under 19; doing so could result in fines and charges.

Scenario 16

- McKenzie is visiting their 19-year-old cousin, Jillian, in Prince Edward Island. McKenzie vapes and brings an e-cigarette with her on her trip, which she offers to Jillian to try.**

The legal age in Newfoundland and Labrador is 19. The legal age for vaping in Prince Edward Island is 21. While Jillian is of legal age to vape in NL, she is *not* of legal age in PEI. Different provinces and territories have their own regulations and laws around tobacco and vaping, and it is important to follow the regulations where you are.

Scenario 17

- In the evenings, Avery likes to take her younger brother to the soccer field near her school to work on her footwork skills. Lately, she has recognized some Grade 11 students from her school who also hang out there. They are very friendly and just want to hang out there to chat and vape.**

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In Newfoundland and Labrador, smoking or vaping at any outdoor sports facilities, including playgrounds, soccer, and softball fields, is prohibited. Additionally, the legal age to use e-cigarettes in NL is 19; grade 11 students are not of legal age to vape.

Scenario 18

- Joe's uncle uses cannabis for medicinal reasons. It helps with pain symptoms. He does not have a prescription. One evening, Joe's uncle offers to drive Joe to his evening hockey game 30 minutes after smoking cannabis.**

An authorized medical exemption does not mean you are exempt from impaired driving laws. If a substance has impaired your ability to operate a motor vehicle, it is illegal for you to drive. The legal limit is 2 nanograms of THC, the active ingredient in cannabis, per millilitre in whole blood. At this level, you could be facing criminal charges and fines.

Scenario 19

- Chloe's mom has medical authorization to use cannabis regularly to help with anxiety. She normally takes cannabis edibles. Therefore, she doesn't drive very often.**

When cannabis is ingested in the form of edibles, it can take 30 minutes to 4 hours to feel the effects. The effects of cannabis edibles can last up to 24 hours, during which it is best to avoid driving. Drivers found to be impaired by cannabis may face license suspensions, vehicle impoundment, fines, criminal charges, and time in jail and, if convicted, a criminal record.

Scenario 20

- Charley got their driver's license when they were 18. They feel confident and competent with their driving since they have been driving for three years. They think it is ok to have a cannabis edible before going to pick up their partner.**

There is zero tolerance in Newfoundland and Labrador for all novice drivers, drivers under age 22, and commercial drivers for any detectable presence of THC. Given that Charley is 21, they are not allowed to have any THC in their body when operating a motor vehicle.

Individuals found impaired while driving will face driver's license suspensions, vehicle impoundment, fines, criminal charges, or time in jail and if convicted, a criminal record.

Scenario 21

- Marty just got his license and is excited to have the family car for the evening. He picks up his friends, Sandy and Taylor to go for a ride. Taylor pulls out their cannabis vape for them to share.**

Drivers under the age of 22, commercial drivers and novice drivers are not permitted to have any detectable presence of cannabis in their body, as confirmed by a federally-approved roadside screening device.

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The Cannabis Control Act indicates that a person shall not consume cannabis in a vehicle. It must be kept in its sealed packaging while transported in a car. If it is not in its original sealed container, it must not be accessible to anyone in the vehicle. It should be stored in the trunk.

Scenario 22

- Rebecca and her friends want to park their car overlooking the ocean to watch the sunset. They have a cannabis joint to share, watching the sunset from the car.**

It is illegal to consume cannabis in a motor vehicle, even if it is parked. Further, cannabis must be kept in its sealed packaging while being transported in a vehicle. If it is not in its original sealed container, it must not be accessible to anyone in the vehicle (e.g., in the trunk).

Scenario 23

- Jared is 15 years old. He is invited to a field party. He wants to bring cannabis so he asks his friend, Marcey, who is in grade 12, to buy it for him. She refuses, so he asks his older cousin Logan to buy it.**

The minimum age to buy or possess cannabis in Newfoundland and Labrador is 19 years. Adults providing cannabis to minors could face jail time. Also, cannabis should be produced by licensed producers and purchased only from licensed vendors. Illegal cannabis products can be contaminated with poisonous chemicals.

Scenario 24

- Sydney got a ride to a field party with Julie. She notices that Julie is vaping cannabis. Julie already had a beer. Sydney wonders how she could get home.**

Combining cannabis and alcohol or any other drug before driving can increase the risk of getting into a car accident. The effects of this polysubstance use combination are unpredictable and can lead to increased intoxication. Both alcohol and cannabis cause drowsiness and slow down our judgment and reflexes. It is illegal to operate a motor vehicle when impaired by drugs, alcohol, or a combination of drugs and alcohol.

Scenario 24

- Maya's brother uses cannabis recreationally. Normally, he buys it from his friend, who gives him a good deal.**

Buying or selling cannabis outside of the licensed system is illegal; fines and criminal penalties will apply.

Scenario 26

- Anna likes to ride her pedal bike. She enjoys the benefits of the exercise. She had spent the evening hanging out with her friend Billy in his shed, chatting over a beer and smoking a couple of joints. When it is time to go home, Billy refuses to let her take her bike.**

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While it is not illegal to ride a pedal bike under the influence in Canada, it could be very dangerous to the safety of yourself and others. Further, individuals who ride a pedal bike impaired may be charged with public intoxication. Police officers also have the authority to issue tickets to cyclists for traffic violations, like running red lights or riding on sidewalks.

Scenario 27

- Ali, 16, started using cannabis at the beginning of the school year. Lately, their friends hang out in the pit near the school at recess time and lunch time, where they can vape cannabis without being seen.**

It is illegal to consume cannabis in public areas like parks and walking trails; doing so could result in fines or charges. Further, Ali is not of legal age (19+) to use cannabis in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Scenario 28

- Rowan, 17, likes to use cannabis edibles. They don't smoke cannabis because of the lasting scent it leaves on their clothes, especially at school. Rowan thinks they can easily pop a gummy at school and not be noticed.**

Law: The minimum age to buy or possess cannabis in Newfoundland and Labrador is 19 years. Rowan is not of legal age to buy or possess cannabis.

School policy: The *Cannabis and Smoke-Free Policy* prohibits the possession or use of any tobacco, nicotine or cannabis products in Newfoundland and Labrador schools. This includes ingesting cannabis (e.g., cannabis gummies).

Scenario 29

- During the lunch period, Jess went out with their friends. They smoked a joint together. During their afternoon Skilled Trades Class, their teacher asks them to accompany her to the office. Their teacher could smell the weed.**

The *Cannabis and Smoke-Free Policy* prohibits the possession or use of any tobacco, nicotine or cannabis products in Newfoundland and Labrador schools. Even if Jess and her friends used cannabis off of school grounds, they are not allowed to be under the influence of cannabis at school.

Scenario 30

- On the bus ride to school, Kevin could smell weed. He knew that the group sitting behind them was smoking. Kevin noticed that the bus driver was becoming increasingly annoyed. When they arrived at school, the bus driver parked and headed to the main office.**

Law: It is illegal to consume cannabis in a motor vehicle. Further, it is illegal to smoke in a motor vehicle while persons under 16 years of age are present.

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School policy: The *Cannabis and Smoke-Free Policy* prohibits the possession or use of any tobacco, nicotine or cannabis products in Newfoundland and Labrador schools. This policy also applies to school grounds, school events, and all vehicles that transport students (e.g., school buses).

Scenario 31

- Tyller called their sister to pick them up at their friend's house. She had to refuse because she just had a glass of wine. She has also taken her ADHD medication earlier.**

Impaired driving is not limited to driving under the influence of alcohol; It is illegal to drive while impaired by any substance. Prescription medication and over-the-counter drugs can affect your driving ability, especially if combined with even a small amount of alcohol. Always check with a healthcare professional before driving while taking a new medication.

Scenario 32

- Mark has been feeling anxious. He wants to take his friend's prescription anxiety medication to see if it will help him feel better.**

Prescription drugs are only legal when prescribed to you by a healthcare professional; it is illegal to take someone else's prescription medication and can be extremely dangerous to your health.

Scenario 33

- Amelia takes ADHD medication to help improve her concentration in school. She has been spending time with Alex, whom she likes a lot. Alex asked her if he could have a few tablets for a friend.**

Sharing your prescription drugs with another person is illegal and potentially dangerous.

Scenario 34

- Kirby's dad has recently had back surgery and was temporarily prescribed an opioid medication to help with pain. Kirby knows that there are many unused tablets still in the medicine cabinet. Kirby also knows that individuals at his school sell these tablets.**

Prescription drugs are only legal when prescribed to you by a healthcare professional; it is illegal to take someone else's prescription medication and can be extremely dangerous to your health.