**DECISION MAKING LESSON**

**Procedure:**

1. Distribute copies of the worksheet, "[Decision Mountain](http://www.eduref.org/Virtual/Lessons/Social_Studies/Psychology/PSY0004.jpg)".  Inform students that they are going to make a decision by climbing the "Decision Mountain." By climbing the mountain they will learn the steps involved in decision making, while examining in further detail the problem presented in their story. Have students break into groups of five or six.
2. Ask students to read the story to their group and identify the problem. At the foot of the mountain, write the problem.
   1. Ask students to identify possible options for resolving the problem. List negative and positive options.
   2. Next, have the class identify the consequence (positive or negative) for the specific option. List the consequences with the corresponding option number.
   3. Review and discuss information. Ask students to decide which options and corresponding consequences are best. Have students write their group decision at the top of the mountain.
3. Ask students to share their story with the class. Discuss problems and decisions. Discuss how decisions were made and why it solves the problem.

***Stories***

1. Catherine is not doing very well in her internship. Whether she is hired permanently depends on her final written report for a project she is working on. Even though she has always tried hard, she hasn't been able to get very good reviews. She finds the report that a previous intern did on the project last summer and he was offered a permanent position.
2. You forgot your social studies assignment. Today is the day when everyone is supposed to bring some object to show to the class. The object should be something that has to do with American History. As you start out the door of the house, you remember your sister's arrowhead collection. Great idea-- you could take the collection to school for social studies class. Suddenly, you remember how your sister feels about the collection. She always says, "I'll never take this collection to school because I don't want to lose or damage it." Since she is already on her way to school, you can't ask permission to take the collection. But the collection is the perfect thing for the assignment.
3. The corporate directors are coming unexpectedly to visit the branch office in two hours. The branch employees, Bianca and Dee Dee, have completed their work and are surfing the net. Mr. Henderson, wanting to make a good impression on the soon to arrive directors and feeling anxious about meeting new people, immediately tells them to get off the computer and straighten up the office. When Bianca began to question her boss, Mr. Henderson got even angrier, and Dee Dee, embarrassed by her boss’ tone of voice, ran to the bathroom crying.
4. Everett brought a MP3 player to school that he had just received as a birthday gift the night before. All of his friends wanted to have a turn playing the MP3. When it was Ben’s turn, the teacher saw Ben with the player and confiscated it. Everett saw this happen and got really mad at Ben.

