


Virginia RULES
Teens Learn & Live the Law

Teaching Law-Related Education to Virginia Youth



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What is Virginia Rules?

Virginia specific law-related education program for youth in the Commonwealth

Web-based and interactive curriculum with comprehensive website (www.virginiarules.org) that is updated as laws change and needs/resources are identified

Lesson content is correlated with specific grade-level SOL requirements

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Program Goals

- Educate young Virginians about the law
- Help participants develop skills needed to make sound decisions and to avoid breaking laws
- Encourage “active citizenship” in schools / communities among participants

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Why Teach This Curriculum?

- ***Informed youth helps to reduce and prevent incidents and criminal activity***
- Lesson-by-lesson
- Actual language of standards provided
- Interactive format
- Provides a tool to meet teaching objectives
- Endorsed by Secretary of Education

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Where should Virginia Rules be taught?

- Classrooms
 - Tie-ins with health and PE, civics / government, family / consumer sciences
- After-school programs
- Diversion programs
- Church / civic organizations
- ANYWHERE THERE ARE TEENS!

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Virginia Rules Modules

- There are 27 Lesson Plans
- Modules can be used individually or together

First 6 Lesson Plans focus on justice systems

1. Introduction to the Laws in Virginia
2. Virginia's Judicial System
3. Virginia's Juvenile Justice System
4. Introduction to a Virginia Courtroom
5. Criminal Law Basics
6. Civil Law Basics

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Additional Lesson Topics

- Crimes Against Persons
- Property Crimes
- Student Responsibilities
- Keeping Your Drivers License
- Child Labor Laws
- Family Relationships and the Law
- Teens and Crime Prevention
- Gangs (2 modules)
- Teens and Violence
- Dating Violence
- Alcohol and Tobacco
- Drugs – General
- Prescription Drugs
- Technology and You
- Victims' Rights
- Bullying

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Newest Modules

Added in 2016:

- Heroin
- Viewing guide for "Heroin: The Hardest Hit" film
- Give It / Get It: Mutual Respect Between Teens and Law Enforcement

New in 2017: Shoplifting

What other topics you would like to see added to the Virginia Rules Program?

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2017 Updates to Existing Modules

- Technology and You
 - Updated statistics on teen sexting
 - Module content updated to reflect wider teen usage of social media

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Interactive Features Recently Added

- To accompany our new Prescription Drug and Heroin modules, we also added interactive e-learning modules on the Virginia Rules website and an accompanying learning game
- Similar online content is in development for our Youth and Law Enforcement Encounters module

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Virginia Rules By the Numbers (2017)

284 new instructor sign-ups this fiscal year
1851 total instructor accounts

FY15 134 presentations to 17,039 students
FY16 565 presentations to 45,731 students
FY17 1049 presentations to 54,998 students
86% increase in the number of presentations
20% increase in the number of students

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VR Statistics – FY 2017 (con't)

Most frequently taught modules (per instructors)

1. Technology and You
2. Bullying
3. Criminal Law Basics
4. Introduction to a Virginia Courtroom
5. Gangs
6. Alcohol and Tobacco
7. Student Responsibilities
8. Trust and Respect Between Youth and Law Enforcement
9. Drugs
10. Introduction to Juvenile Justice

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Instructor Roles and Responsibilities

- Be fully oriented to the VR Program, its purposes, its components, and how the program operates.
- Examine the school DCV data to identify problem areas and select lessons to address problems identified.
- Collaborate with educators to implement in ways tailored to the needs of schools/communities.
- Be alert to “teachable moments.”

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Instructor Roles and Responsibilities

- Carefully prepare for delivering lessons
- Provide information to the Office of the Attorney General
- Stay alert to emerging issues and share your best ideas and suggestions with the Virginia Rules Program.

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Lesson goal:
To provide an introductory overview of offenses involving property, including crimes in which property is destroyed and crimes in which property is stolen or taken against the owner's will.

Students will learn:
-what crimes against property entail
-what types of crimes involve taking property
-what types of crimes involve destroying property

Suggested grade levels:
High school students and advanced middle school students

Materials:
Virginia Rules "Property Crimes," student handbook

Before the lesson:
1. Read the entire lesson plan.
2. Make copies of handouts and any activity/work sheets used in the lesson.
3. Obtain locality- and community-specific information crime against persons.
4. Give thought to appropriate local examples of the problems/issues discussed in the lesson.

Lesson Plans

- Lesson goal
- Students will learn . . .
- Suggested grade level
- Materials
- Before the lesson prep

Lesson Plans

- Introduction
 - Instructional guidance
- Activities/ Worksheets
 - Designed to make teaching the material easy
- Conclusion/Review Activity
- Review and Recap
- Pre-/Post-Test
- Basic PowerPoint

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Resources Lists


- Most credible resources
- Organized by audience and by topic
 - For Instructors
 - For Parents
 - For Students

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Questions?

For additional information or materials,
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