

The Lifeboat Dilemma Activity

Step 1: Read and discuss the following scenario with your group:

Scenario: You are on a ship that is sinking and the seas are rough. All but one lifeboat has been destroyed. The lifeboat holds a maximum of 6 people. There are ten people that want to board the lifeboat. The four individuals who do not board the boat will certainly die. The ten people are:

- Woman who thinks she is 6 weeks pregnant
- Lifeguard
- Two young adults who were recently married
- Senior citizen who has 15 grandchildren
- Elementary school teacher
- Thirteen year old twins
- Veteran nurse
- Captain of the ship

Step 2: As a group come to a consensus and then create a claim based on who you think should be allowed to board the lifeboat. Write the claim below:

- **Claim:** _____

Step 3: As a group, list reasons why each person you chose deserves to be saved.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Step 4: As a group, turn your claim and reasons (evidence) into a paragraph. Remember to start with your claim (what you are trying to prove) and that each reason (piece of evidence) needs to have at least one sentence explaining it. Write your paragraph on the back.