

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS (1 of 3)

The WALs Foundation mock trial program is a **two-day (back to back) event** in each classroom (some schools use their media center). It was designed to educate students about the judicial system and the rising problem of prescription drug abuse.

The manual/attachments/"how to" DVD and the 10 Easy Mock Trial Steps, should provide you with all the information you need for a successful mock trial. **I would suggest you first READ and PRINT OUT the manual and attachments, and then watch the "how to DVD."** We have also provided videos (long and short overview versions), that you can access at: www.walswheeling.com . Go to the website under THE WALs FOUNDATION, and click on Mock Trial Program. You will find the video and other helpful information under WEBSITE RESOURCES. WV Drug Abuse problems, solutions, tips can be viewed here by choosing the following websites: www.wvrxabuse.org or www.drugfree.org.

WV Department of Health and Human Resources has also provided research based statistics you can access by clicking on their link.

All 5th grade teachers in WV have received an invite to participate with their 20,000+ students in THE WALs Foundation web based mock trial program.

All 5th grade students can be assigned a role - (role list, role description and prop suggestions included in TEACHER INFORMATION). Additional optional roles can also be added. **THE JUDGE will be played by a volunteer lawyer** (lawyer packet can be downloaded and printed – Attachment 2).

Props make the event more fun and if all 5th grade teachers coordinate together, **the props can be shared**. If that is the case, maybe one room can be designated for the mock trial so you can have one right after the other and no gaps for lawyer purposes. **All students are encouraged to dress up on the day of the official mock trial (2nd day).**

For purposes of acquiring a lawyer or lawyers, we suggest all 5th grade teachers from each school meet and coordinate their trials on the same two days. Teachers can suggest local lawyers and you can also check listings in the phone book. Someone from that group can make the calls from those lists and suggestions (how to contact area lawyers included in TEACHER INFORMATION). Once there is confirmation from the lawyer(s), that lead person can send out a lawyer packet(s) (Attachment 2– copy as needed). Keep a list of upcoming mock trial dates, times and who is coming.

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS (2 of 3)

Day 1 is prep day - Once students are in their courtroom setting you can go over the roles of each person (role descriptions included in TEACHER INFORMATION).

You can discuss how jurors are selected – how the verdict needs to be unanimous and the fact that in a real trial there is no time limit for deliberations. Spend a good amount of time talking about substance abuse – specifically prescription drug abuse. **SUGGESTION: We recommend you contact an agency in your area and have someone recovering from substance abuse talk to your students – it is HIGHLY EFFECTIVE!** Links for additional information about prescription drug abuse in West Virginia is listed on Page 1 of Teacher Instructions along with how to access video of Day 1. You can also contact Barbara Knutsen, Executive Director of The WALIS Foundation (contact information is under ROLE DESCRIPTIONS, Executive Director).

Day 2 is mock trial day – Once the lawyer arrives, you can introduce him/her, hand out scripts, props and have a seat to enjoy the experience. You might take pictures or a video.

When the lawyer is finished, encourage a Question and Answer session, hand out the paper gavel bracelets and collect props and scripts. The trial usually takes about 30-40 minutes, so you should have ample time for the Q & A session which is fun!

SUGGESTED TIME LINE:

2 -3 weeks prior

- * Read AND PRINT OUT your manual/attachments, paper gavel bracelets (Attachment 1) and the SCRIPT (Attachment 3)
- * Coordinate your dates, times, with other 5th grade teachers in your school
- * Call and acquire lawyer(s)
- * Send lawyer packet(s) (Attachment 2)
- * Make/buy props (suggestions included in TEACHER INFORMATION)
- * Watch the “how to” DVD, videos, check out website links when preparing for Day 1 and/or find someone recovering from substance abuse to speak to the students (**THEY ONLY NEED ABOUT 15-20 MINUTES**)

WITHIN A WEEK PRIOR TO DAY 1

- * Assign roles
- * Copy scripts for students with the speaking parts (jurors do not need a script)
- * Highlight speaking parts for students
- * Hand out instructions for speaking roles (in OTHER ROLE INSTRUCTIONS – *juror sheet can be copied*)
- * Practice the entire script a few times to get students familiar with the script
- * Review vocabulary words and steps in a trial (both in ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)
- * Check out the WV Supreme Court book for student activities (Attachment 1)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS (3 of 3)

* Call your local paper, radio and TV stations to cover your event (PRESS RELEASE in ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.) After the mock trial, you can send in this press release with pictures if no press attended.

DAY 1

- * ALWAYS call the lawyer to remind them of DAY 2
- * Move the classroom (media center) to look like a courtroom (mock included in TEACHER INFORMATION)
- * Hand out scripts
- * Review each of their roles in the mock trial (descriptions included in TEACHER INFORMATION)
- * Discuss facts about real trials you may have attended, how jurors are picked, deliberations having no time limit, and other pertinent information you have collected about the judicial system
- * Discuss substance abuse, prescription drug abuse, WV problem, etc. for about 20 minutes (refer to video/links on main website page). **INTRODUCE SPEAKER if you have one.**
- * For about 15 minutes, go through a quick rehearsal (maybe start at the beginning of each person's part) to show lawyers, witnesses where to stand/sit, who to address when speaking (this will be also covered in the long version video AND in Role Instructions in TEACHER INFORMATION)
- * Collect scripts
- * Pass out WALs Foundation activity sheet (Attachment 1)

DAY 2

- * Move classroom (media center) to look like a courtroom (mock included in TEACHER INFORMATION)
- * Greet and introduce the lawyer
- * Pass out scripts, props for students and lawyer (robe and gavel)
- * Take pictures or video
- * Encourage a Q & A session with lawyer (you should have about 15 minutes for this)
- * Thank lawyer
- * Hand out paper gavel bracelets to students/lawyer (let them fill in their role)
- * Collect props/scripts

AFTER MOCK TRIAL

- * Send lawyer(s) thank you note(s)
- * If press didn't attend your actual mock trial, send a few pictures from your event along with a press release (in ADDITIONAL INFORMATION) to your local media