



3.1 | lesson detail

LEARNING OBJECTIVE | Distinguish between policies and community practices

1> PROVIDE THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND EXPECTATIONS FOR STEP THREE.

Students will be learning more about the policies and practices that relate to their particular issue and will be able to distinguish between policies and practices.

Display the following lists on chart paper:

Column 1: Chewing gum is not allowed in school; You must be 16 to get a driver's license; ABC Pharmaceutical Company does not test its products on animals

Column 2: A big group of high school students usually hangs out at the local skate park on Friday nights; My neighbors recycle their bottles and cans; I choose to wear jeans on the weekend

Explain that one is a list of policies and one is a list of practices.

Ask: **What do the statements in the first list have in common?** (They are rules or guidelines established by people in authority). Explain that we refer to these as policies. Ask: **What do the statements in the second list have in common?** (They are habits and behaviors – basically things people do). Explain that we refer to these as “practices.”

Refer to [Handout 3A](#) if needed for definitions of policies and practices.

2> CHECK STUDENTS' UNDERSTANDING OF PUBLIC POLICIES, PRIVATE POLICIES, AND COMMUNITY PRACTICES.

Explain that for the Process, it's important to distinguish between two types of policies:

PUBLIC POLICIES are policies that are written by people in government; they are federal, state, and local policies.

PRIVATE POLICIES are policies that businesses, organizations, or other groups establish.

Ask students to write their own examples of public and private policies and community practices on the chart. As they come up with their own examples, remind them that public policies can be at the local, state, or federal level.

Discuss the statements and review or clarify the differences between public and private policies and between policies and practices.

