



The Big Legal Lesson

February 2025

What's the law got to do with me?

Taster activity
Ages 5-11



Supported by



Sponsored by

Mishcon de Reya



The Big Legal Lesson

Taster Activity

Age Range: KS1 and KS2

Introduction: Thank you for taking part in The Big Legal Lesson 2025. You are joining a network of thousands of teachers and legal professionals across England and Wales who are committed to developing young people's knowledge of the rule of law and their legal rights.

Thank you to international law firm Mishcon de Reya for sponsoring The Big Legal Lesson again in 2025. Their funding allows us to offer all resources and support to participating schools for free.

Also, thank you to our education partners The Law Society for their continued support in helping us deliver legal education to young people across the UK.

Suggested timing: This short "taster activity" is designed to be run over a 15-30 minute session. The main focus of the activity is on a class discussion. Two optional The Big Legal Lesson Big Challenges have been included.

If you have more time available and would like to run additional activities, please refer to The Big Legal Lesson classroom notes pack. This pack contains a more detailed lesson plan with five separate activities. Some of the activities also include an optional The Big Legal Lesson Big Challenge.

Objectives:

By the end of this activity pupils will be able to explain how the law impacts their day-to-day lives.

Activity:

- 1) Introduce the activity using **slides 2-3**.
- 2) Read all about Charlie's day on **slides 4-8**.
- 3) Ask pupils to discuss with a partner all the ways they think Charlie's day has been affected by the law.
- 4) Take in a selection of feedback before going through the information on **slides 9-10**. Some additional notes are included on the next page.

The Big Legal Lesson Big Challenges:

Slide 11 - Challenge pupils to draw a time-line of their day. Pupils should label their time-line to show all the different points they think they come into contact with the law.

OR

Slide 12 - Ask pupils to write about an average day in their lives showing all the different ways they interact with the law. A template for this can be found at the end of this pack.



Charlie's Day

The table below provides an overview of all the different ways Charlie was affected by the law during his day.

Eating breakfast	The law stops supermarkets from offering price promotions on certain foods like those that are high in sugar. There are also laws about where these products can be placed in shops.
Watching TV	There are laws about what type of advertising can happen. Adverts must be truthful and honest and they must include accurate descriptions of products. There are certain things that you cannot advertise, like smoking.
Going to school	Parents have a legal duty to make sure their children receive an education. In England, the law says you have to stay in some sort of education until you're 18. In the rest of the UK, it is 16.
In the car	There are lots of laws about driving. For example, both Charlie and his grandad will need to wear a seatbelt. If Charlie is under 135cm he will also need to be in an appropriate car seat. Charlie's grandad will need to stick to the speed limit and can't be holding his mobile phone whilst driving or do anything that might take his concentration away from the road.
Petrol	It is against the law to sell petrol to anyone under the age of 16.
What you learn	Lots of schools have to follow the national curriculum. This sets out what subjects should be taught and what should be covered within those subjects. The law protects pupils from discrimination. Schools are not allowed to discriminate against pupils on the grounds of nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
Lunch time	The law says that schools have to provide healthy and nutritious food and drink. Schools also need to make sure that pupils' medical, dietary and cultural needs are taken into account. The law also says that some pupils, who meet certain criteria, should get these meals for free.
PE	There is a law which tells schools they have to have an outside space that allows pupils to play outside and do PE outside.
Buying a game	Some video games will have an age limit. It is against the law to sell these games to someone under that age. The law also says that the game must be of satisfactory quality. If Charlie got home and the game didn't work the law says he could get a refund.
Homework	This one is a trick - there are no laws here! In years gone by the government has set guidelines about how much homework schools should be setting but these have never been made into law.
Playing Roblox	The Online Safety Act 2023 received Royal Assent on 26th October 2023. It will make social media companies more responsible for users' safety on their platforms, particularly children. For example, they will have to remove illegal content, protect children from harmful content and enforce age limits and age-checking measures.



The Big Legal Lesson

Taster Activity

The Law and Me

My day started when _____

At school I _____

After school I _____

The last thing I did before bed was _____

Re-read your day. Describe three different ways the law affected your day.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____
