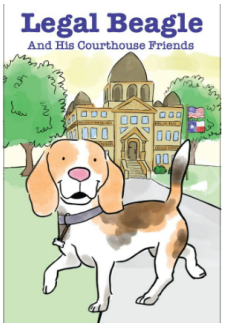
Presentation Guide for



Legal Beagle and His Courthouse Friends Coloring Book

About the Project:

Legal Beagle and His Courthouse Friends Coloring Book complements *Legal Beagle–The Case of the Stolen Collar*, a project designed to introduce the legal system to K-3 elementary students. Through this coloring book, younger elementary students can learn about the legal system by meeting key figures who play important roles in a trial.

Suggested Audience:

Students–Grades K-3

Project Resources Available:

- Contact the Law Related Education office jan.miller@texasbar.com to request copies of the coloring book to distribute in the classroom.
- Additional resource pages include:
    - Two versions of I Spy–Courtroom which asks the students to categorize the courtroom symbols and count the numbers of each–the first version is for students in grades K-1 and the second version is appropriate for students in grades 2-3.
    - A Maze–this activity has the students trace Legal Beagle on the path to the judge
    - Word Find–students locate key terms and personalities involved in the legal system. These include police, judge, prosecution, defendant, plaintiff, courtroom, bailiff, witness, gavel, Legal Beagle, and the jury.
    - Draw Legal Beagle–a step by step creative exercise for the students to draw a dog

Request Materials:

- Contact the Law Related Education office jan.miller@texasbar.com to request copies to distribute in the classroom.

Presentation Outline:

Things to do before the presentation:

- Discuss the time and location of the presentation.
- Determine the number of students in the class to ensure appropriate resources are available.

- Prepare the necessary materials before the visit, including copies of any of the resources you plan to use

Opening Remarks (3 minutes)

- Introduce yourself and provide a brief explanation of what a lawyer does.
- Set the stage by asking the following questions:

  -How many of you have had a problem or a disagreement with someone?
  -How do you resolve or solve the disagreement or problem?
- Sometimes people can't agree or solve their problem together because it's too big and important so they need to go to trial in a courtroom.
- Explain that the purpose of your presentation is to show you how people resolve or solve a conflict in a courtroom and who helps solve the problem.
- Explore the Book (10-12 minutes)
- Briefly discuss each character from the legal system and the role they play:
  - Judge
  - Plaintiff
  - Defendant
  - Prosecutor
  - Witness
  - Bailiff
  - Court Reporter
  - Police Officer
  - Jury
- After introducing each character, let the students ask questions about the characters

Engage the Audience (5-10 minutes)

- Play true or false where students go to one side of the room for true and the other side of the room for false OR make sentence strips to give one to each student. They read the sentence strips and go to the correct side of the room - thumbs up/thumbs down. Thumbs up for true, thumbs down for false. They could read the sentence strip out loud to their group or the whole class and tell why it's true or false.

  Questions for true/false game

- Let the students pick their favorite character to color and have them share who that was.
- If time, use one of the additional resource pages to complete.

Questions and Discussions to Engage the Audience:

- Can you tell me one major idea you learned about the people who work in the Courthouse?
- What else do you want to know about how a trial works?

Report your Presentation:

- We would love to hear about your presentation. Go to Report Your Presentation

Suggested Content TEKS: K.6A&B, K.7A, K.8A&B, K.13B, K.14D, K.15; 1.9A, l.11A&B, l.16, 1.17D, l.18; 2.1B, 2.8A, 2.15A, 2.17; 3.7B&C, 3.9C, 3.14A, 3.16