

# The Decision to Donate



## GRADE LEVEL

5-12 Ages 11-18

## TIME

One class period

## OVERVIEW

This lesson reinforces the importance of gaining appropriate knowledge before making an informed decision, within the context of organ and tissue donation.

## LESSON OBJECTIVE

Students will understand the critical decision-making process and utilize scaffolding tools to critically reflect on their decision of whether or not to register as an organ, eye and tissue donor.

## COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.11-12.1;  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-12.1, 2. Addition of homework assignment: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-12.1, 2, 2.A, 9

**Next Generation Science Standards**  
HS-LSI-1

## PREPARATION

- Make photocopies of handouts for students
- Making a Decision about Donation handout

## Lesson

1. Review the steps of the decision-making process. Project Decision-Making – Definitions and Examples to lead a discussion on decision-making, and how it relates personally as well as on society as a whole.
2. Display:

“Legacy of Life”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXspTTtR30c>

3. Distribute Making a Decision to provide students with a scaffolding tool, to critically reflect on their decision to register as a donor. Students may complete the assignment individually, but work in pairs or small groups to discuss.

4. Pay special attention to student responses regarding their fears about donation. Research has shown that the most common reasons people give for not registering are based in misconceptions, misunderstandings, and negative attitudes towards donation exacerbated by media and fictional portrayals. Educational brochures and resources on the Go Recycle Yourself website address common fears about donation. Donate Life CT staff is available to offer additional support.

5. HW Assignment “Letter to Family.”

**\*\*Adapted from Donate Life Northwest curriculum:**

[www.GoRecycleYourself.com](http://www.GoRecycleYourself.com)



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## MAKING A DECISION ABOUT DONATION

Answering the questions below will help you consider organ and tissue donation. Use the back of this paper if needed to write out your thoughts.

1. What are your options, in terms of registering as a donor?
2. Does the idea of donating organs and/or tissues after you pass away conflict with, or complement your personal values? Why or why not?
3. If you needed an organ transplant in order to live, do you think organ donation would conflict with, or complement your values?
4. Who would be impacted by your decision to donate, or not to donate?
5. Are there any risks to registering? What, if any, are they? Where did you hear about this risk? Can you verify that your concerns are based in fact?
6. Is time a factor in whether or not to register? In other words, does it matter if you register today, or ten years from today?
7. How do you register as a donor in your state? Are there any barriers or challenges which make it difficult to register as a donor in your state?
8. My next course of action:



## Letter to Family

Dear Parent or Guardian,

During \_\_\_\_\_ class, I learned facts about organ, eye and tissue donation and transplantation. An important part of the lesson was the need for me to share my decision about donation with you. In the event of a tragedy, as members of my immediate family, you may be asked for authorization to donate my organs and tissues.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I want to be an organ, eye and tissue donor. I plan to, or have already, registered as a donor.

\_\_\_\_\_ No, I do not want to be an organ, eye and tissue donor.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am undecided about donation at this time.

These are the reasons for my decision:

I'd also like to know how you feel about this subject and to talk with you about your wishes.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

**For information on organ, eye and tissue donation and to register online: [www.donatelifect.org](http://www.donatelifect.org)**



## CARTA A MI FAMILIA

Querido padre o guardián:

Durante la clase de \_\_\_\_\_, aprendí información sobre de la donación de órganos, ojos y tejidos. Es muy importante que comparta mi decisión acerca de la donación con usted, como un miembro de mi familia inmediata. En caso de una tragedia, se le puede pedir autorización para donar mis órganos y tejidos.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sí, quiero ser un donante de órganos, ojos y tejidos, si posible, después de fallecimiento. Planifico, o ya está inscrito como donante.

\_\_\_\_\_ No, no quiero donar mis órganos, ojos o tejidos después de fallecimiento.

\_\_\_\_\_ Estoy indeciso sobre la donación en este momento.

Estas son las razones de mi decisión:

También quisiera saber cómo se siente acerca de este tema y hablar con usted acerca de sus deseos.

Firma del Estudiante \_\_\_\_\_

Firma del Padre / Guardián \_\_\_\_\_

Para aprender más e inscribirse en línea: <https://www.donatelife.net/es/done-vida/>