

EPISODE

6

Act Up

Theme:

PERSPECTIVES

Common Core State Anchor Standards

Comprehension and Collaboration

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.1

Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.4

Present information, findings, and supporting evidence so that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and so that the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

EXTEND: POST-GAME DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

LESSON DURATION

10–20 minutes

21ST CENTURY LEARNING COMPETENCIES

Life and Career Skills

- Flexibility and Adaptability

Learning and Innovation Skills

- Critical Thinking
- Communication

EDUCATOR PREP

Discussion Facilitation Strategies:

- Whole group
- Turn and Talk
- Small group
- Fish bowl
- Independent

EPISODE CHALLENGE

Austen has been working on finding a solution for the newly reopened power plant that is causing citizens of Fog Hollow, one of Port Douglas' poorest neighborhoods, to become ill. He has done a great job inspiring people, but clinic employees are confused on what their roles are. Brendan has done a lot of research on the issue in Fog Hollow and makes a case for leading the project himself. Students must decide who is best to lead the project based on what best serves the people of Fog Hollow.

Conversation Starters




- “I agree with you because ____.”
- “I disagree with you because ____.”
- “Could you tell me more about why ____?”
- “What did you mean when you said ____?”
- “Have you considered ____?”
- “Adding to what you said...”
- “Can you give an example?”
- “What you said made me think about . . .”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What are the initiatives Austen has started to help Fog Hollow?** *The initiatives Austen has taken are enlisting Sasha and Victoria to help staff a mobile clinic to visit Fog Hollow and treat sick people, working with Marianne to organize a protest at City Hall, and creating a PSA for the clinic's Facebook page.*
- 2. How did Austen's lack of organization impact your day as the medical director? Why was that a problem?** *Austen's lack of organization resulted in my spending my day talking with staff to figure out who is best to lead the Fog Hollow project. It also impacted the entire staff, because the lack of organization is screwing up people's time, and doctors have been running late to appointments. This is a problem because as the medical director I need to keep my staff happy and on schedule. Our commitment to our patients needs to come before dealing with the problems Austen has created, such as tech issues and poor scheduling.*
- 3. Compare the impact the PSA would have being posted on Facebook versus on the Daily Byte video blog?** *Posting the PSA on Facebook will only reach the limited number of people connected to the clinic's page. Everyone at the clinic is*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (continued)

Support 

- Select specific questions that students must answer. Differentiate to individual students as needed.
- Review discussion questions with students prior to gameplay.

already interested in Fog Hollow, and it may be difficult to reach people outside of the clinic’s staff. Posting the PSA on the Daily Byte’s video blog would reach the blog’s wide audience and could really draw attention to the issue for people outside of the clinic.

4. Why was it important for you, as the medical director, to get feedback from the rest of the staff on whether to choose Austen or Brendan to lead the project? *It was important for me to get feedback from the rest of the staff because I needed to make sure that everyone was on board with my decision. Also, the other staff members offered insight on what was going on with Austen’s initiatives that I wasn’t aware of.*

5. In the episode, did you choose Brendan or Austen to lead the team? Why did you make that decision, and what happened as a result? Use evidence from the episode to support your decision. *Answers will vary. Possible answers include:*

- *I chose to have Brendan lead the team because of his organizational skills and because he feels he can manage the staff in a more impactful way. Also, many staff members were unhappy with Austen’s lack of follow-through on his ideas and with his level of disorganization. As a result of choosing Brendan, there was a lot of excitement about the success of the project, and the PSA brought civic attention to the situation in Fog Hollow. Brendan also created a more manageable and organized schedule.*
- *I chose to have Austen lead the team because of his ability to treat patients, his history of activism, and his passion for the project. Austen is already “unofficially” leading the project. As a result, the team feels they didn’t get the most out of the PSA. People who wanted to volunteer were unable to get a clear answer on how to help, and the staff was still confused about their schedule. Austen realized he needed more help.*

Ground Rules for Debate 

- Speak clearly.
- Listen attentively.
- Respect all opinions.
- Wait your turn to speak.
- Continue discussion using sentence stems.

DEBATE QUESTION

The board of education is advocating for all students to wear uniforms in your district. Do you agree or disagree with the board’s decision? With a partner, list the advantages and disadvantages of having students wear uniforms in your school.

Answers will vary. Possible answers include:

Advantages of uniforms:

- *Families are not forced to buy new clothes every season if they can’t afford it*
- *No competition amongst students about who has the best clothes*
- *Helps prevent bullying based on what a student is wearing*
- *Helps alleviate gang activity in school*
- *Promotes school spirit*

Support 

When students are done making their lists, divide the class in half and have them debate whether the school should have uniforms or not.

Tech Tip



Post the debate in Google Classroom and allow students to comment on each other's responses using conversation starters. Or, post the debate on Padlet and have students vote.

Tech Tip



DEBATE QUESTION (continued)

- *Easy to get ready in the morning*
- *Students dressed appropriately for school/no longer need a dress code*

Disadvantages of uniforms:

- *Interferes with creativity and self-expression*
- *Causes resentment among students*
- *Expense of uniforms*
- *They can cause discomfort*
- *Intolerance of culture*
- *Hinders decision making skills*
- *Competition among students "who wore it best"*

POST-GAME DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Directions: Complete each discussion question, using complete sentences. Use evidence to support your answers.

1. What are the initiatives Austen has started to help Fog Hollow?

2. How did Austen’s lack of organization impact your day as the medical director? Why was that a problem?

3. Compare the impact the PSA would have being posted on Facebook versus on The Daily Byte video blog.

4. Why was it important for you, as the medical director, to get feedback from the rest of the staff on whether to choose Austen or Brendan to lead the project?

5. In the episode, did you choose Brendan or Austen to lead the team? Why did you make that decision, and what happened as a result? Use evidence from the episode to support your decision.

Post-Game Discussion Questions (continued)



Debate Question!

Answer the following question, using complete sentences. Be sure to state your opinion and support it with reasons.

The board of education is advocating for all students to wear uniforms in your district. Do you agree or disagree with the board’s decision? With a partner, list the advantages and disadvantages of having students wear uniforms in your school.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS	
Advantages:	Disadvantages:
