

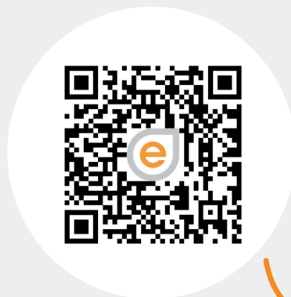
# Inside the Courtroom: The Key Players and Steps of a Criminal Trial

## Teaching Guide





Éducaloi is an independent non-profit organization that explains the law to Quebecers in everyday language.



### We want to hear from you!

What did you like? What did you learn?

Share your thoughts – it could lead to even more activities that you'll be excited about!

[Link to survey](#)

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

This guide is meant as legal information, not legal advice. If you need advice on a specific situation, consult a lawyer or notary.

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# Table of Contents

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<b>Presentation of the Activity .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Preparing the Activity .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>In-Class Procedure .....</b>	<b>6</b>
Introduction to the law . .....	6
Civil law and criminal law .....	6
The burden of proof . .....	6
The players in a criminal trial .....	6
Review of legal terms.....	7
Les étapes du processus judiciaire .....	7
The judicial process in criminal cases .....	7
The steps in a criminal trial .....	7
Knowledge consolidation exercise.....	8
Online interactive quiz.....	8

# Presentation of the Activity

<b>What you need to know</b>	During the activity, the students will learn about the roles of different people involved in a criminal trial, as well as the steps typical of this type of trial.
<b>Target audience</b>	<b>Secondary IV</b> students.
<b>Summary</b>	<p>Through this activity, students will discover the following aspects of the law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil law and criminal law</li> <li>• The burden of proof ,</li> <li>• The people involved in a criminal trial</li> <li>• The criminal judicial system</li> <li>• The steps in a criminal trial</li> <li>• Legal terms</li> </ul> <p>Students must complete various exercises that summarize the main concepts explained in the PowerPoint presentation.</p>
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the steps in a criminal trial.</li> <li>• Present the different people involved in a criminal trial and their respective roles.</li> </ul>

<b>Subjects and subject-specific competencies</b>	<p><b><u>Culture and Citizenship in Québec – Secondary IV</u></b></p> <p>Theme (Cultural reality): Justice and the law</p> <p>Main concepts: Justice and Legal and judicial institutions</p> <p>Specific concepts: Principles of justice, types of justice, courts and legal recourse, and criminal law and civil law.</p> <p><b>Competency 1</b> : <i>Studies cultural realities.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Establishes the scope of the object of study:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draws up preliminary questions and responses.</li> <li>- Calls on relevant concepts.</li> <li>- Collects information.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Duration</b>	<p>Two 60-minute periods.</p>
<b>Required material</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One copy of the <b>Teaching Guide</b>.</li> <li>• One copy of the <b>Student Workbook Answer Key</b> for the teacher.</li> <li>• One copy of the <b>Student Workbook</b> per student.</li> <li>• The <b>PowerPoint presentation</b>.</li> </ul>

# Preparing the Activity

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## Putting the Teaching Guide to use

- Read the **Student Workbook Answer Key**, the **PowerPoint presentation** and this document (**Teaching Guide**).

## Required material

- An interactive whiteboard or other equipment to display the **PowerPoint presentation**
- The copies of the documents to print:
  - **Student Workbook** (one per student)
  - **Student Workbook Answer Key** (one for the teacher)

## In-Class Procedure

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### Introduction to the law

45  
minutes

#### Civil law and criminal law

- Present the legal content using slides 2 to 6.
- Individually or in teams, students complete exercise 1 in the **Student Workbook**, pp. 4 and 5.
- Correct the exercises.



#### The burden of proof

- Present the legal content using slides 7 and 8.
- Individually or in teams, students complete exercises 2 to 4 in the **Student Workbook**, p. 6.
- Correct the exercises.

#### The players in a criminal trial

- Present the legal content using slides 9 to 19.
- Individually or in teams, students complete exercise 5 in the **Student Workbook**, pp. 7-8.
- Correct the exercise.
- Present the example of the layout of a courtroom on slide 20.

## Review of legal terms

The terms in the following exercise were presented throughout the PowerPoint presentation.

- Individually or in teams, students complete exercise 6 in the **Student Workbook**, p. 9.
- Correct the exercise using slide 21.



## The criminal judicial process

15  
minutes

- Read the instructions for the exercise using slide 23. The students must complete exercise 2.1 in the **Student Workbook**, p. 11 before presenting the following slides.
- Present the legal content using slides 24 to 32.
- The students must correct their work during the presentation of these slides by completing the correction table in the **Student Workbook** 2.1.1 in the Student Workbook, p. 11.

## The steps in a criminal trial

30  
minutes

[The Ontario Justice Education Network's YouTube channel](#) contains relevant videos on the steps in a criminal trial.

Watch the videos during the presentation of this content. The relevant videos are already included in the **PowerPoint presentation**. The information in these videos apply to Quebec as well because criminal law is the same throughout Canada.

- Present the legal content using slides 33 to 49.
- Individually or in teams, students complete exercise 3.1 in the **Student Workbook**, pp. 12 to 14.
- Correct the exercise.

## Knowledge consolidation exercise

- With the students, read the scenario in the **Student Workbook**, p. 14.
- Individually or in teams, students complete questions 1 to 5.
- Correct the questions.

20  
minutes

### Online interactive quiz (optional)

We provide online quizzes to help students review the concepts learned about the key players and steps in a criminal trial. Ideally, each student should have access to an electronic device, but students can also work in pairs. Alternatively, these quizzes can be completed together as a class. The teacher needs to create a free account to access the quizzes.

- [Civil Law and Criminal Law in Quebec](#)
- [The Players in a Criminal Trial \(Roles\)](#)
- [Legal Terms](#)
- [The Steps in a Criminal File](#)
- [The Steps in a Criminal Trial](#)

**Following this activity, we invite you to hold a mock trial in the classroom using the teaching guide *Under the Spotlight: Witness Examination and Cross-Examination*.**



# Your opinion

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To better support you and create tools adapted to your needs, we want to hear your experience and opinions.

Take this short survey by scanning the QR code or click on the link.

It will take you less than 5 minutes.

Thank you for your participation!



[Link to the survey](#)

## Other tools for you!

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Did you like this tool? We have more! Here's a list of the workshops and teaching guides we offer to help you teach key legal concepts. We hope you'll find what you're looking for!

### Workshops Given by Legal Experts

Our free, interactive and fun legal education workshops are run by volunteer legal experts all over Quebec and can be implemented in a regular class period. They prompt youth to reflect, to challenge their ideas and to take a stance on legal questions that are a part of their daily lives. For high schools only.

[Register](#) to your account to request a workshop. It's free!

- [READY, SET, INVEST!](#)

Students step into the shoes of an investor to reflect on legal and ethical business practices before making investment decisions.

- [WORKING: NOT AT ALL COSTS!](#)

Students become aware of harassment in the workplace through a quiz and scenarios. They also learn about possible remedies and resources they can turn to if they experience or witness harassment.

- [BEAT THE BUZZER!](#)

In this game, teams square off to answer questions about legal issues in the lives of 12-to-17-year-olds.

- [BULLYING: WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?](#)

In this activity, students learn about the legal aspects of bullying such as criminal law, sharing of intimate images, the right to control images of themselves and possible recourses. Students then take a position on these issues.

- [THE SMALL CLAIMS COURT IS IN SESSION!](#)

Students stage a mock civil trial between a consumer and a business. They discover the various players involved and experience what a trial is like in this court.

- [THE LAW: IT'S NOT LIKE IN THE MOVIES!](#)

By staging a mock criminal trial, students discover the roles of various players in the Quebec justice system, the different steps in a trial and basic criminal law concepts.

- [THE RULES OF THE GAME!](#)

In this game show activity, students debate legal issues affecting the lives of young adults: work, housing, consumer rights, the criminal justice system, and more.

- [OUR CONFLICT, OUR SOLUTION!](#)

Conflicts don't always end up in court with lawyers battling it out! In this scenario, groups of high school students who have a disagreement arrive at a win-win solution. This activity introduces students to mediation as an alternative method to prevent and resolve disputes.

- [PICK YOUR SIDE!](#)

Students take a position on issues that stimulate debate. They learn that the concept of justice evolves constantly and is shaped by the clash of ideas and changing societal values. Students then discuss why they chose one side over the other. The volunteer legal professional presents relevant legal information and encourages students to reflect on the issues raised.

## Our Teaching Guides: Ready-To-Use Resources

Our teaching guides can be used in a range of grades. They are of various lengths and activity types. Since most of them are available in French they can easily be integrated into a French second language class. Turnkey, they can be led by the teacher and are specifically adapted to secondary school students.

**Make your choice and download them free of charge.**

### Secondary – Cycle 1

- [ARE YOU OLD ENOUGH?](#)

Students learn which responsibilities and freedoms the law gives them according to their age.

- [THE INTERNET AND THE LAW](#)

This activity provides an overview of prohibited online activities and recommends solutions if a child is being harassed online.

- [STATE AND JUSTICE THROUGHOUT HISTORY](#)

The History and Citizenship Education program is packed with legal concepts, many of which relate to laws, personal rights and freedoms.

- [THE CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM FOR TEENAGERS](#)

This activity explains how the criminal legal system often treats teenagers differently than adults.

- [A RIGHT TO PRIVACY](#)

This teaching tool gets students thinking about why privacy rights are protected. Activities include discussion questions and a writing exercise.

## Secondary – Cycle 2

- [BIOETHICS: SAVIOUR BABIES](#)

This activity involves a class debate on two hot topics in biotechnology: the selection of human embryos and the use of a baby's tissues or organs to cure another person. Students then draft a bill on these topics.

- [DISCRIMINATION AT SCHOOL?](#)

This teaching tool lets students explore the themes of justice, tolerance and the accommodation of differences.

- [INSIDE THE COURTROOM: THE KEY PLAYERS AND STEPS OF A CRIMINAL TRIAL](#)

This activity explains the roles of people who play a part in a criminal trial, and the steps in the process.

- [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY](#)

Clear explanations about trademarks, copyrights, patents, and more!

- [LEGAL CAREERS](#)

This activity introduces students to a variety of jobs that involve the law.

- [LEGAL CAREERS IN THE INDIGENOUS CONTEXT](#)

In this activity, students learn about the variety of law-related jobs. It was designed with the realities of Indigenous people in mind.

- [THE RIGHTS OF YOUTH HERE AND AROUND THE WORLD](#)

Students step into the shoes of a judge, lawyer or social worker to write a persuasive or explanatory text on the rights of youth.

- [DON'T FIGHT, MEDIATE!](#)

Students are asked to take on specific roles in a simulated mediation session to resolve a conflict between two teens and their families.

- [SCHOOL SEARCHES AND YOU](#)

This activity prompts students to reflect on invasions of their privacy and to learn about their rights regarding school searches.

- [UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT: WITNESS EXAMINATION AND CROSS-EXAMINATION](#)

Students will learn the basics of the criminal justice system, the steps involved in questioning witnesses and the role of each player in a criminal trial. Students then take part in a mock trial with the help of a script. This activity appeals to students' sense of justice. They will role-play, analyze a situation, take a position and formulate questions to get to the truth.

- [L'ÉVOLUTION DU DROIT À L'AVORTEMENT \(IN ENGLISH SOON\)](#)

## CCQ: Resources for Teachers

### [TRAINING LEGAL CONCEPTS IN THE CCQ PROGRAM: SECONDARY SCHOOL LEVEL](#)

#### [TRAINING 101: CULTURE AND CITIZENSHIP IN QUÉBEC, THE LEGAL CONCEPTS](#)

Follow our training session, which covers the legal concepts found in the new CCQ course, improve your understanding of general legal concepts, and increase your confidence to teach them!

## Videos: Legal Education

You can use these videos and tutorials when discussing legal concepts with your students:

- [LE DROIT EN CLASSE : AGIR EN LIGNE](#)  
(Being online, French with English subtitles)
- [LE DROIT EN CLASSE : PROCÈS SIMULÉ](#)  
(Being online, French with English subtitles)
- [LE DROIT EN CLASSE : LE CONSENTEMENT](#)  
(Being online, French with English subtitles)

## Order a Poster

You'll have one more thing to display in your classroom.

Order for free on our website:

<https://educaloi.qc.ca/en/order-educalois-products/>

- [CYBERBULLYING... IT CAN BE A CRIME!](#)
- [WORKING: NOT AT ALL COSTS!](#)

## To Learn More

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**To learn more**, visit [legallifeskills.ca](http://legallifeskills.ca) for complete information about our workshops and teaching guides.

**For more information**, join the Éducation juridique au Québec Facebook group to share your experiences and questions.

**If you have any questions**, please contact us at [scolaire@educaloi.qc.ca](mailto:scolaire@educaloi.qc.ca).