

**Grade: 4-6** 

**Competency Area:** Responsible Decision Making

**Lesson Title:** The Wave (Lesson #3)

**T-SEL Standard:** 5.E.3. Students explore their own role as a caring citizen and resident and their social responsibility to participate in our democracy to advance collective well-being.

**Duration: 20 minutes** 

<u>Materials Needed</u>: ChalkWild erasable backpack + ChalkWild chalk markers + terry cloth

## Lesson Directions:

- 1. Introduction: Gather the students in a circle and have them sit down. Explain that they are going to do "the wave." To ensure that all students are clear on the instructions, explain that the wave begins with one student putting their hands up in the air and moving them up and down. That action passes the movement to the student next to them (they may have seen this happen in sporting events). Once all students understand what to do, choose a student to start The Wave. After the wave is done, ask the students how the wave represents decision-making as a community. Invite several students to share their thoughts. Next, ask the students what would happen if one student in the middle of the circle decided not to participate in The Wave. Invite students to share their thoughts. Make the point that if one student didn't do the wave, the wave would die out and stop. Explain that just like The Wave, every decision we make impacts those around us.
- 2. Drawing Activity: "The Wave Impacts"
  - Provide each student with a copy of The Wave Impacts worksheet. Instruct students to place it in the back of their backpack.
  - Give students the following directions:
    - In the center of their hand (palm) they will write a place/activity. It could be home, school, or an activity like playing on a soccer team etc.
    - On each of the fingers, students will write the name of a person or group of people that their decisions impact beyond themselves. For example, at school they may put their teacher on one finger, their classmates on another, the principal on one, and younger students on another.

**3. Sharing:** Gather students together. Tell them that you are going to say out loud some of the people that they may have written on their backpack. If what you say matches what is written on their backpack, they should hold up their backpack or raise their hand. Explain that this way we can all see the different people we consider when we make decisions. You may say people like "my family, my friends, my classmates, my teammates, my teacher"



