

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer Key: Tiny Thinkers and the Giant Choice: Kindergarten Ethics Quest

Step into the shoes of a fair leader to weigh consequences and character when rules and feelings collide in these tough playground puzzles.

1. A magical bird drops a shiny gold coin. There are NO rules about finding money. You know it belongs to a sad giant who lost it. What is the most 'virtuous' or kind thing to do?

Answer: C) Return the coin to the giant because you want to be an honest person.

Virtue ethics focuses on being a good, honest person even when there aren't rules tell you what to do.

2. If you follow a 'rule' to never break a toy, but breaking a small toy would save a kitten from being stuck, a 'deontologist' (someone who only follows the rules) would say you must still keep the rule.

Answer: A) True

Deontology is about sticking to the rules and duties no matter what happens as a result.

3. You have one cookie. If you give it to 4 hungry friends instead of eating it yourself, you are trying to make the ___ amount of people happy.

Answer: B) Greatest

This represents utilitarianism, which aims for the greatest happiness for the most people.

4. Imagine you promised to keep a secret. But the secret is that a friend is going to do something dangerous. Which is the HARDEST part of this dilemma?

Answer: A) Deciding between the 'duty' of a promise and the 'outcome' of safety.

Ethical dilemmas are hard because two 'right' things (promises vs. safety) are fighting each other.

5. A person who acts with 'courage' ignores their fear to help a friend because it is part of their character.

Answer: A) True

Virtue ethics is about practicing good traits like courage consistently.

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6. A 'Utilitarian' thinker would say that if hurting one person's feelings makes 100 people dance with joy, it is the ___ choice.

Answer: C) Right

Utilitarianism measures right and wrong by how much total happiness a choice creates, even if it's unfair to one person.

7. A robot is programmed with one rule: 'Never enter the red room.' Inside the red room, a plant is dying for water. Why is the robot stuck?

Answer: B) The robot's rule (Deontology) conflicts with doing a good deed.

This shows the conflict between strictly following rules and trying to achieve a good outcome.

8. If you are a 'Virtue Ethicist,' you think about 'Who do I want to be?' instead of just 'What is the rule?'

Answer: A) True

Virtue ethics focuses on the internal character and the kind of person you are becoming.

9. When you have to choose between two choices and both seem a little bit right and a little bit wrong, you are facing an ethical ___.

Answer: B) Dilemma

A dilemma is a situation where you have to make a difficult choice between two or more conflicting values.

10. Your class is voting. 19 kids want to play tag, but 1 kid really wants to draw. If you choose tag to make the most people happy, which theory are you using?

Answer: C) Utilitarianism (Results)

Choosing based on the happiness of the majority is a classic utilitarian approach.