Legal Enrichment And Decision Making
What is **LEAD**?

- A proven law-related education program
- Primary school students
- Ages 10 - 12
- Taught voluntarily
  - Prosecutors and other criminal justice professionals
  - One hour each week
  - 20-week curriculum
GOALS

- To teach children about the criminal justice system
- To teach children about the importance of making the right choices in life
Focus

- Legal and social consequences of common juvenile crimes
  - Gang affiliation
  - Truancy
  - Drug use
  - Theft
  - Graffiti

- Techniques for conflict resolution and peer pressure

- Life skills, social responsibility and respect for diversity
Curriculum
- Role-playing activities
- Interactive lessons
- Concludes with a scripted mock trial
- Developed by the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office in 1993.
  - More than 30,000 students in Los Angeles County have completed the program.

- Partnered with the Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) in 2003.
  - CRF is a nationally recognized U.S. Leader in Law Related Education Programs

- Two-Year evaluation published by academic researchers in 2005.
Project LEAD provides students with the tools and experiences to help students assess difficult situations and make appropriate decisions with a clearer understanding of the consequences.
Participation in Project LEAD appeared to provide a “Protective Factor” in which students:

- Maintained positive attitudes about laws, lawyers and authority figures
- Increased their understanding of the consequences of their decisions
- Developed an understanding of the importance of tolerance
- Maintained positive educational and career aspirations
Expansion of LEAD

- The program has been implemented in various locations throughout the USA
- Several countries have shown an interest in adopting the program
Expansion of LEAD

- Quebec, Canada implemented - October 2014
- Curriculum translated from English to French
- Lessons adapted to laws and cultures of the region
Implementation of Project LEAD

- How to implement Project LEAD in your area:
  - Visit the Project LEAD website [http://projectlead.lacounty.gov](http://projectlead.lacounty.gov)
  - Contact the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office [LEAD@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:LEAD@da.lacounty.gov)
  - Inquire with local prosecuting agency - current law-related education program in place?
  - Contact a primary school principal or chief administrator
  - Meet with an assigned teacher
  - Follow the easy-to-teach curriculum
Before Project LEAD I thought lawyers were not that important. But now I do and the thing I like about them is that they always teach us to do the right thing. And they tell us if you do this you'll get a bad choice and you'll never go to college or you'll never learn. I want to be a lawyer because I want to be able to help other people.

—Project LEAD Student
For more information, please visit:

http://projectlead.lacounty.gov

Or email:

LEAD@da.lacounty.gov