Jenny Wutka, 11/10/15, and Section #5

**Economic Mysteries (Template- See rubric for details)**

**Part A: Lesson 3, Visual 3: The Mystery of the Lost and Found That’s Always Well Stocked from NCEE Booklet:**

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| Handy Dandy Guide (Economic Principles used to solve the Mystery)1. People choose to do the things they think are best for them.
2. People’s choices have costs.
3. People choose to do things for which they are rewarded.
4. People create rules that affect our choices and how we act.
5. People gain when they freely decide to trade with one another.
6. People’s choices today have future results.
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| True False Questions (Clue/cues to solving the mystery – type out and answer): | 1. Kids enjoy being cold. False
2. Parents buy clothing to keep their kids warm. True
3. Parents always buy clothes that kids like to wear. False
4. Having clothes that you like to wear is like a reward. True
5. While kids “own” their outdoor clothing, they rarely pay for it themselves. True
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| Solution to the Mystery (Use relevant Economic Vocabulary – see Principles and handouts): | Parents choose to buy nice clothing, such as coats or sweatshirts, to keep their children warm. If the clothing is lost the kids generally choose to leave it there in order to spend their time doing other, more rewarding things. The lost and found being fully stocked is costing the kids to be cold at recess, but going to the lost and found to search for their things would cost them time at recess. Kids in school think going outside when it is time for recess is more rewarding then spending the time to look at the lost and found. Parents create a rule that their child needs to check the lost and found for their lost item and children rarely follow this rule. The students are trading the time it would take to go to the lost and found to continue to do fun activities in class, eat lunch, or play at recess. The choice that students make to not get their things from the lost in found generally result in them receiving a new piece of clothing that they had lost, that they may like better.  |

**Part B: Write and Solve your own Economic Mystery**

**Title of your own mystery: Click it or…**

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| Your original economic mystery scenario: | Everyone knows that seatbelts were invented to keep people safe in the case of an accident.But people constantly refuse to wear them. They want to be safe but someone, somewhere decided that wearing a seatbelt “isn’t cool”, or they just want to be more comfortable. Horror stories of accidents with people not wearing their seatbelts are seen and heard all over, but it is still so hard for some people to “click it”. Clearly our law enforcing seatbelts isn’t working. |
| Focus Question: | Why do people choose not to wear seatbelts when horror stories flood the news? |
| True False Questions (Clue/cues to solving the mystery – create your own **and answer**): | 1. People think nothing bad ever happens to them. True
2. Kids want to be cool/fit in. True
3. People like to break the law. False
4. Fitting in seems like more of a reward then a hypothetical crash that “won’t happen to me”. True
5. People like to be comfortable when traveling by car. True
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| Solution to the Mystery (Use relevant Economic Vocabulary – see Principles and handouts): | The choice to wear a seatbelt should be a no brainer. People choose to fit in with the crowd they think is best for them, but kids shouldn’t have to put their own life at risk to be “cool”. The choice that someone makes every time they get in the car could cost them their life. Being comfortable in the car is a short-term reward and the consequence of that is the long-term punishment of being seriously injured, or worse, if a crash were to occur. The law that requires people to wear seatbelts was made to save lives in the case of an accident. Trading your own safely for the acceptance from others may seem like a fair trade in the moment, but trading those friends for some that don’t judge you for wearing a seatbelt should be the ultimate reward. The choice that everyone makes when they get into a car will seriously affect their future if an accident were to occur. Many more people who wear seatbelts are able to walk away, or have minor injuries, from serious accidents than those who do not wear them. |