

Suggested Lessons for Implementing Kids Voting

Grades K-2	
Theme: Elections and Voting	
Concept 1 - My Vote Gives Me Power	Voting Chain
Concept 2 - I Study the Candidates and Issues	Election Bulletin Board
Concept 3 - I Register and Vote	Kids Voting Registration and Voting Simulation
Concept 4 - I Continue to Make a Difference	The Wish Tree
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Duck for President</i>
Culminating Activity	I Go to the Polls
Theme: Democracy and the People	
Concept 1 - What is Democracy?	Who's the Leader?
Concept 2 - Democracy in America	If I Were . . .
Concept 3 - A Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities	"I Can Vote" Song (or use any patriotic song)
Concept 4 - Democracy in the World	Democracy In the Print
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>D is for Democracy: A Citizen's Alphabet</i>
Culminating Activity	Democracy and Me
Theme: Active Citizenship	
Concept 1 - Gathering & Weighing Information	I Heard, I Think, I Know . . .
Concept 2 - Communicating Your Position	Spokespeople for Kids Voting USA (League of Women Voters poster)
Concept 3 - Working Together	Match Community Helpers
Concept 4 - Having an Impact	If Elected . . .
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Miss Rumphius</i>
Culminating Activity	What's The Problem?

Grades 3-5	
Theme: Elections and Voting	
Concept 1 - My Vote Gives Me Power	Voter Apathy Experience
Concept 2 - I Study the Candidates and Issues	Meet the Candidates
Concept 3 - I Register and Vote	Kids Voting Registration and Voting Simulation
Concept 4 - I Continue to Make a Difference	Watching the Returns
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>The Vote: Making Your Voice Heard</i>
Culminating Activity	I Go To The Polls
Theme: Democracy and the People	
Concept 1 - What is Democracy?	Our Homes, Our Town, Our Country
Concept 2 - Democracy in America	The President's Hats
Concept 3 - A Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities	Pledge Anew
Concept 4 - Democracy in the World	Pen Pals
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Ideas of the Modern World: Democracy</i>
Culminating Activity	Go Ask City Hall
Theme: The Right to Vote	
Concept 1 - What is Suffrage?	Nonvoter Simulation
Concept 2 - Suffrage Today	Know the Vote
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>The Day Gogo Went to Vote</i>
Culminating Activity	Get Out The Vote!
Theme: Active Citizenship	
Concept 1 - Gathering & Weighing Information	Using the World Wide Web
Concept 2 - Communicating Your Position	Debates For Classroom Decisions
Concept 3 - Working Together	Building A Story
Concept 4 - Having an Impact	Dollars and Sense
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>The Kid's Guide to Social Action</i>
Culminating Activity	Learn and Serve

Grades 6-8	
Theme: Elections and Voting	
Concept 1 - My Vote Gives Me Power	Apathy Cartoon Analysis
Concept 2 - I Study the Candidates & Issues	Rate the Candidates
Concept 3 - I Register and Vote	Kids Voting Registration and Voting Simulation
Concept 4 - I Continue to Make a Difference	Election Accountability
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Landslide: A Kid's Guide to U.S. Elections</i>
Culminating Activity	I Go To The Polls
Theme: Democracy and the People	
Concept 1 - What is Democracy?	Types of Government
Concept 2 - Democracy in America	If Elected . . .
Concept 3 - A Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities	The "Right" Way
Concept 4 - Democracy in the World	Democracy: Who? What? Where?
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Government: How Local, State and Federal Government Works</i>
Culminating Activity	Democracy, Taking A Stand
Theme: The Right to Vote	
Concept 1 - What is Suffrage?	Suffrage Sequence Cards
Concept 2 - Expanding the Right to Vote	1965 Alabama Literacy Test
Concept 3 - Suffrage Today	Voting Barriers
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>A Time for Courage: The Suffrage Diary of Kahtleen Bowen</i>
Culminating Activity	Use It Or Lose It!
Theme: Active Citizenship	
Concept 1 - Gathering & Weighing Information	The Decision-Making Chart
Concept 2 - Communicating Your Position	Debate The Issue
Concept 3 - Working Together	You Can Vote
Concept 4 - Having an Impact	It's Official
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	Fight On: Mary Church Terrell's Battle for Integration
Culminating Activity	Toward a More Perfect Community

Grades 9-12	
Theme: Elections and Voting	
Concept 1 - My Vote Gives Me Power	
Concept 2 - I Study the Candidates and Issues	
Concept 3 - I Register and Vote	
Concept 4 - I Continue to Make a Difference	
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Presidential Leadership</i>
Culminating Activity	Candidates' Night
Theme: American Democracy & Citizenship	
Concept 1 - What is Democracy?	
Concept 2 - Democracy in America	
Concept 3 - A Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities	
Concept 4 - Democracy in the World	
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Common Sense, Rights of Man, And Other Essential Writings of Thomas Paine</i>
Culminating Activity	Act From The Heart
Theme: Suffrage and The Right to Vote	
Concept 1 - What is Suffrage?	
Concept 2 - Expanding the Right to Vote	
Concept 3 - Suffrage Today	
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Voting and The Spirit of American Democracy</i>
Culminating Activity	A Game of Cards
Theme: Active Citizenship	
Concept 1 - Gathering & Weighing Information	
Concept 2 - Communicating Your Position	
Concept 3 - Working Together	
Concept 4 - Having an Impact	
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Teen Power Politics</i>
Culminating Activity	Service-Learning Action Plan

**Pennsylvania Civics and Government Standards
Supported by Kids Voting Curriculum**

For Grades K-3

5.2.3 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

- 5.2.3 A Identify examples of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- 5.2.3 B Identify personal rights and responsibilities.
- 5.2.3 D Identify the importance of political leadership and public service in the school, community, state and nation
- 5.2.3 E Describe ways citizens can influence the decisions and actions of government.
- 5.2.3 G Identify ways to participate in government and civic life.

5.3.3 How Government Works

- 5.2.3 A Identify the elected representative bodies responsible for making local, Pennsylvania and United States laws.
- 5.2.3 E Identify positions of authority at school and in local, state, and national governments.
- 5.2.3 F Explain what an election is
- 5.2.3 G Explain why being treated fairly is important

For Grades 4 -6

5.2.6 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

- 5.2.6 A Compare rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- 5.2.6 B Explain the relationship between rights and responsibilities
- 5.2.6 D Describe the importance of political leadership and public service.
- 5.2.6 E Identify examples of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- 5.2.6 G Explain the importance of participating in government and civic life.

5.3.6 How Government Works

- 5.3.6 A Compare the structure, organization and operation of local, state and national governments.
- 5.3.6 E Identify major leaders of local, state and national governments, their primary primary duties and their political party affiliations.
- 5.3.6 F Describe the voting process.

Pennsylvania Citizenship Standards Supported by Involvement with Kids Voting

Civics and Government

Grades 7 – 9

5.2 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

- A. Contrast the essential rights and responsibilities of citizens in systems of government.**
- B. Analyze citizens' rights and responsibilities in local, state and national government.**
- D. Analyze political leadership and public service in a republican form of government.**
- E. Explain the importance of the political process to competent and responsible participation in civic life.**
- G. Analyze political and civic participation in government and society.**

5.3 How Government Works

- E. Explain how citizens participate in choosing their leaders through political parties, campaigns and elections.**
- F. Explain the election process.**

Grades 10 – 12

5.2 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

- A. Evaluate an individual's civic rights, responsibilities and duties in various governments.**
- B. Evaluate citizens' participation in government and civic life.**
- D. Evaluate political leadership and public service in a constitutional democracy.**
- E. Analyze how participation in civic and political life leads to the attainment of Individual and public goals.**
- G. Evaluate what makes a competent and responsible citizen.**

5.3 How Government Works

- E. Evaluate the roles of political parties in election campaigns.**
- F. Evaluate the elements of the election process.**
- J. Evaluate the role of the media in political life in the U.S., and explain the role of The media in setting the public agenda.**

KIDS VOTING NOT AN "ADD ON"

Let the Kids Voting *Civics Alive* Lessons HELP your STUDENTS LEARN

Academic Standards For Civics And Government

Civics and Government have always been a part of our curriculum.

- The Free public School Act of 1834 stated that “These schools were created to educate children to be useful citizens.....and aware of their duties as citizens.....”
- The Public School Code of 1949 directs teaching to “instill into every boy and girl.....their solemn duty and obligation to exercise intelligently their voting privilege....”
- The Academic Standards of 2002 include as a major strand (5.2) “Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship”

The Standards address:

- Rights and responsibilities of citizenship
- Conflict resolution in society and government
- Leadership and Participation
- Citizen influence on decisions and actions of government

The Kids Voting, *Civics Alive* curriculum includes the "principles" listed above. Kids Voting is not an Add On, but another way to introduce essential concepts. The curriculum generates student interest, involvement, and enthusiasm. Activities offer engaging and authentic methods to enhance instruction.