

# Electoral College Simulation Directions

**This Electoral College activity simulates a mock presidential election. For this activity, you will work in pairs with one die and a tally sheet. Once the activity begins, you need to record after every die roll.**

## ***How to Play:***

1. The object of the simulation is to collect as many electoral votes as possible.
2. Write both participants' names on the two spaces on the tally sheet.
3. You must start with Alabama and go down the list in order.
4. Both players take turns rolling the die. Your roll should be recorded on the tally sheet.
5. The player who rolls the highest number gets all the Electoral College votes for that state; on the tally sheet, write down that number. The losing player will record 0 for this state.
6. Whoever won the previous state gets to roll first for the next state.
7. Repeat steps 4 through 6 for all 50 states and D.C. making sure to record everything on the tally sheet.
8. In the event of a tie during the die roll, re-roll until the tie is broken.
9. Once all 538 of the Electoral College votes have been decided, add up all four columns on the tally sheet. These totals should be recorded at the bottom.
10. The person with 270 electoral votes or more wins the election.

## **Electoral College Simulation Reflection Questions**

1. If you were a presidential candidate, which states would you target for your campaign? Why?
2. What would be the lowest number of states a candidate would need to win 270 Electoral College votes?
3. Was the winner of the popular vote (die roll total) the same winner when using the Electoral College?
4. What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of the Electoral College system? In your opinion, should the current process for electing the U.S. president be kept the same? If yes, why? If no, what changes would you make?

# Electoral College Simulation Tally Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

State	Person 1		Person 2	
	Electoral Votes	Die Number Rolled	Electoral Votes	Die Number Rolled
Alabama - 9				
Alaska - 3				
Arizona - 11				
Arkansas - 6				
California - 54				
Colorado - 10				
Connecticut - 7				
Delaware - 3				
District of Columbia - 3				
Florida - 30				
Georgia - 16				
Hawaii - 4				
Idaho - 4				
Illinois - 19				
Indiana - 11				

Adapted from:

<https://www.thompsonschoools.org/cms/lib/CO01900772/Centricity/Domain/3627/Electoral%20College%20Simulation.pdf>

Iowa - 6				
Kansas - 6				
Kentucky - 8				
Louisiana - 8				
Maine - 4				
Maryland - 10				
Massachusetts - 11				
Michigan - 15				
Minnesota - 10				
Mississippi - 6				
Missouri - 10				
Montana - 4				
Nebraska - 5				
Nevada - 6				
New Hampshire - 4				
New Jersey - 14				
New Mexico - 5				
New York - 28				
North Carolina - 16				

North Dakota - 3				
Ohio - 17				
Oklahoma - 7				
Oregon - 8				
Pennsylvania - 19				
Rhode Island - 4				
South Carolina - 9				
South Dakota - 3				
Tennessee - 11				
Texas - 40				
Utah - 6				
Vermont - 3				
Virginia - 13				
Washington - 12				
West Virginia -4				
Wisconsin - 10				
Wyoming - 3				
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>				