

IMPORTANCE OF VOTING



LESSON SUMMARY

BENCHMARK
SS.3.CG.2.2 <i>Describe the importance of voting in elections.</i>
BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Students will recognize that it is every citizen's responsibility to vote.■ Students will explain the importance of voting in a republic.
CORRELATED FLORIDA STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ ELA.3.F.1.3: <i>Use knowledge of grade-level phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words.</i>■ ELA.3.R.2.2: <i>Identify the central idea and explain how relevant details support that idea in a text.</i>■ ELA.3.R.3.2: <i>Summarize a text to enhance comprehension.</i>■ ELA.3.C.1.3: <i>Write opinions about a topic or text, include reasons supported by details from one or more sources, use transitions, and provide a conclusion.</i>■ ELA.3.V.1.1: <i>Use grade-level academic vocabulary appropriately in speaking and writing.</i>■ ELA.3.V.1.3: <i>Use context clues, figurative language, word relationships, reference materials, and/or background knowledge to determine the meaning of multiple-meaning and unknown words and phrases, appropriate to grade level.</i>■ MA.K12.MTR.7.1: <i>Apply mathematics to real-world contexts.</i>
ESSENTIAL QUESTION
Why is voting in elections important?
VOCABULARY
responsibility, vote, election
MATERIALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Chart paper■ Voting Quotes cards (one per student)■ Importance of Voting response sheet■ Glue or tape■ Voter Turnout graph

ACTIVITY SEQUENCE

INTRODUCTION/HOOK
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. On a piece of chart paper, facilitate a class vote on a fun topic of choice to engage your students. Examples:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. More recess vs. less recessb. Chocolate vs. vanilla cupcakesc. Xbox vs. Playstationd. Pizza vs. chicken fingers2. Review the fact that voting is an effective decision-making strategy to use with groups of people.3. Explain that voting ensures that everyone's voice is heard and that a majority of people agree with/like the decision that is made.4. Explain to students that in the United States, citizens vote in elections. We choose people to represent us in government and then they make and enforce laws.5. Ask students: What might happen if no one showed up to vote in an election? Or only a few people? Or only people from one state? Explain to students that voting is an important responsibility that the United States needs all citizens to participate in.
ACTIVITY
<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Pass out one card from the "Voting Quotes" cards to each student. <p>Teacher Note: Have quotes printed, copied, and cut ahead of time. Quotes may need to be duplicated depending on class size.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Tell the students that each quote discusses the importance of voting.8. Distribute one "Importance of Voting" response sheet to each student.9. Have students glue/tape their quote on the worksheet and answer the corresponding questions. <p>Teacher Note: Be sure to circulate the room and help students with the vocabulary within the quotes.</p>
CLOSURE/FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT
<ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Project the "Voter Turnout" graph and use the discussion questions in the Speaker Notes.
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
FJCC/LFI Website
ANSWER KEYS
Answers will vary
SOURCES

Voter Turnout graph from Brookings Institute:

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/turnout-in-2020-spiked-among-both-democratic-and-republican-voting-groups-new-census-data-shows/>