

## IT'S ELECTION TIME

Suggestions for teaching about elections.



Decide on the focus for your election activities. Are you following a national or local election, or are you going to have a classroom election?

Discuss the process of the elections. The process differs depending on the type of election. For example, presidential elections have primaries and votes are cast by the Electoral College. How are other candidates chosen for other elections? How are the votes decided?

For a national or local election, it may be educational to “mirror” the election in the classroom. Divide into groups to reflect the parties that are on the ballot. What are the issues for the election? What are the party platforms on those issues? Which party would students belong to – **or** would they like to create their own, alternative parties?

### PROJECT IDEAS:

- Make a poster that describes the platforms of each party and the issues that are important for this election.
- Make a poster about the person who is running for president, class leader, etc.
- Write a speech in the style of one of the candidates.
- Write a speech that you wish a candidate would deliver, on an issue that's important to you.
- Have a debate.
- Plan a convention: What will make your convention memorable? How will you pay for it?
- Make a Venn diagram comparing issues or candidates.
- Take polls. Can rephrasing a question change the poll results?