

Class citizenship project



Concept:
Me and my community



Recommended:
2nd grade



Length:
45-115 minutes

About this lesson

In this lesson, students organize and hold a classroom election to decide the theme for a class movie party. They'll work in teams to promote specific movie and snack pairings, hold a secret ballot vote, and chart the results to see how a community makes fair choices.

Learning objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- Describe the importance of citizenship and community
- Demonstrate collaboration during a group decision-making process
- Use posters and speeches to persuade others
- Create a bar graph to represent election results

Driving question

How can we use a vote to make a fair choice for our class movie party?

Future ready skills

Collaboration

Communication

Responsibility

Lesson breakdown

45-55
minutes

Activity 1 - Campaign teams

In this activity, students work in teams to create campaign posters and "I voted" ribbons to encourage students to vote for their team's movie and snack option.

60-70
minutes

Activity 2 - Election day

In this activity, students deliver short speeches, cast their secret ballots, and create a graph to show the winner of the class election.

In-app My Files

Upload photos of posters and a group photo of students wearing their "I voted" buttons to the **My Files** app on their **Dpad**.

Lesson vocabulary

- Election
- Vote
- Campaign
- Results
- Ballot

ASCA standards

M 2. Sense of acceptance, respect, support and inclusion for self and others in the school environment

B-SS 5. Ethical decision-making and social responsibility

B-SS 6. Effective collaboration and cooperation skills

B-SS 9. Social maturity and behaviors appropriate to the situation and environment

B-SMS 9. Personal safety skills

Campaign teams



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40-55 minutes

Inquiry prompts

- What would you say to try to convince someone that your movie and snack pairing is the best option?
- How can a poster help someone decide which movie they want to see?
- What can you draw on your poster to make your snack look delicious?

Instructions

In this activity, students work in teams to create posters and "I Voted" ribbons to get people excited about their team's movie and snack option to try to win the election.

- 1 Present 3 "Movie & snack bundles" (e.g., #1: Space movie & popcorn, #2: Animal movie & pretzels, #3: Underwater/ocean movie & Goldfish crackers).
- 2 Use the "1, 2, 3 method" to divide the class into 3 groups and assign them their bundle. Explain that students will work as "campaign teams" to convince others to vote for their snack bundle. Be sure to let students know that the secret voting will take place in [Activity 2 - Election day](#) and that they don't have to vote for their own bundle if they'd prefer one of the other movie and snack options.
- 3 Each team works together to create a large poster showing their movie and snack. Each member should add their voice to the poster by writing their own version of the sentence: "Vote for us because our movie is [Reason] and our snack is [Reason]!" onto the poster or on a speech bubble to glue on. Explain that these sentences will be used as their script to read aloud during the team speeches in the next activity.
- 4 Each student will also create their "I voted" ribbon to wear once they have cast their ballot.
- 5 Give teams 5 minutes to hang their posters around the room so "voters" can see their options.

Materials required

- Large paper for posters
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils
- Ribbon or paper circles (for "I voted" badges)
- Tape

Artifacts

Campaign posters and "I voted" ribbons.

Election day



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60-70 minutes

Inquiry prompts

- Why is it important that your vote stays a secret?
- How does a graph help us see who won the election?
- If your choice didn't win, how can you still be a good classmate during the movie party?

Instructions

In this activity, students deliver short speeches, cast their secret ballots, and create a graph to show the winner.

- 1 Each team stands in the front of the room, one at a time, with their poster. Every student on the team takes a turn delivering their "speech", (the sentence they created for their poster), e.g.: "Vote for us because our movie is action-packed and our snack gives the perfect crunch!"
- 2 Once the campaign speeches have concluded, every student gets one paper ballot. They write their choice (1, 2, or 3) in secret and drop it in the box.
- 3 As students return to their seats, they can put on their "I voted" ribbon to wear.
- 4 Open the box and count the votes. Use tally marks on the board so the class can follow along.
- 5 Turn the tally marks into a simple bar graph on the board. The tallest bar shows the winning movie and snack.
- 6 To close the activity, discuss how even if our favorite didn't win, the election was fair because everyone had one vote and a chance to share their ideas. Then, set the date for your movie and snack party!

Materials required

- A "Ballot Box" (box with a slit)
- Paper ballots
- Whiteboard or chart paper and markers

Artifacts

Winning movie and snack bar graph