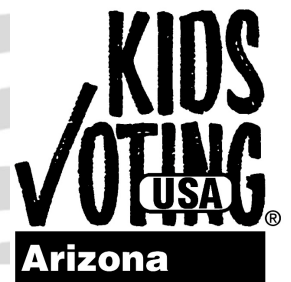




State Elections: Kindergarten through Grade 2



The following is a supplement to the Kids Voting *Civics Alive!* curriculum. The information and activities in this supplement are specific to the state of Arizona. Please use the grade level material in *Civics Alive!* before and while using this material.

Concepts and Activities:

I. We live in the state of Arizona and the city of _____.

A. Discussion:

- In what country do we live?
- How many states are there in our country?
- Do you know anyone who lives in any of the other states?

B. Activity:

1. Help or have each child write someone's name who lives in another state on a small sticker. Using a classroom U.S. map, have students put the stickers on states where their friends or family live.
2. Find Arizona on the map. Place a big sticker on Arizona stating "Arizona is the state where we live." Find the city where your school is located and put a sticker in that area stating "_____ is the city where we live." Using individual maps, have each student duplicate this information on his/her own "This Is Where I Live" map.

II. The capital of the state of Arizona is Phoenix.

A. Discussion:

- What is the capital of our state?
- Why do we need a capital?

B. Activity:

- Looking at a map of Arizona, list reasons why Phoenix is a good geographic location for our capital.

III. The Governor is the main leader in our state government.

A. Discussion:

- What does a governor do?
- How does he or she get his or her job?
- Who is running for the job of governor in Arizona?

B. Activities:

1. Make a chart and/or mural listing or illustrating the jobs a governor performs.
2. Find and display pictures of the candidates running for governor.
3. Have students bring and discuss pictures and articles from newspapers which reflect what the candidates are saying and doing. (The teacher will need to monitor and perhaps provide a balance of what is being shared.)

IV. There are other offices which have candidates for election in November.

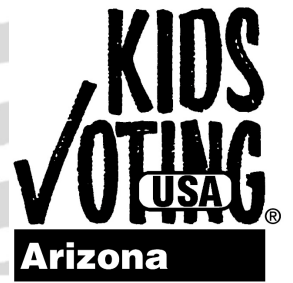
A. Discussion:

- What other offices are we voting on in this election? (Secretary of State, Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Treasurer. You may wish to include others.)
- What is the job of the people in each of these positions?
- Who is running for each office?

B. Activity:

1. Make a chart for each office. Include the name of the office and a simple job description. Have students gather pictures that illustrate the duties and activities of the office and place them on the chart.
2. Have the students make a model ballot for each office including drawings of each person running for that position. Make a "Who Is Running For Office?" bulletin board of ballots.

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V. State elections are held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November every four years.

A. Discussion:

When is the state election?
What is going to happen that day?

B. Activity:

Using a class calendar, mark Election Day as "The day my family and I are going to vote." Use the sample ballot found on our website, www.kidsvotingaz.org, to conduct a practice election with your students.

VI. I vote in an area called a precinct.

A. Discussion:

What is our community called?
For the purpose of voting, what is the area in which I live called?

B. Activity:

Using a precinct map of your area, which is available from your county's elections office, identify the precincts in which your students live by having them pin their names on their own precincts.

VII. I vote in a building called a polling place.

A. Discussion:

What is the name of my polling place?

B. Activity:

Using the Kids Voting voter registration cards, help or have each child write the name of his/her precinct or polling place on the registration card. You will find a printable version of the Kids Voting registration cards on this CD.

Kids Vote ONLINE at
www.kidsvotingaz.org

