



Democracy and the People Planning Grid

Gr. 6-8

Activity Name	Objectives	Family Involvement?	Notes
A Body of Information	Students consider all the ways that democracy impacts our lives.		
A Declaration	Students read an excerpt from the Declaration of Independence and interpret it in their own words.		
A Message From Nelson Mandela	Students compare and contrast aspects of American and South African democracy.		
Citizen's Jeopardy	Students learn about American democracy by studying 25 facts and then playing Jeopardy in two teams		
Culminating Activity: Democracy, Taking a Stand	Students learn the characteristics of a democratic society and explore their roles as citizens.		
Democracy: Who? What? Where?	Students investigate questions about their government and other governments around the world.		
If Elected...	Students consider the power of American democracy in action, making decisions as an elected leader would.		
LITERATURE CONNECTION ACTIVITY Government: How Local, State, and Federal Government Works by Mark Friedman	Students learn how the government operates and how it affects them.		
Pen Pals	Students contact other students around the globe to learn about different democracies.		
Political History Interview	Students interview an adult to learn firsthand about the American democratic experience.		
The Right Way	Students identify the rights guaranteed to them by the Bill of Rights.		
Types of Government	Students understand what democracy is within the context of other forms of government.		