



DEMOCRACY IN THE PRINT

(30-40 minutes)

OBJECTIVE

Students explore aspects of another democracy.

MATERIALS

Newspapers, magazines, periodicals; scissors

GET READY

- ✓ Tell your students that there are other democracies in the world besides the United States. In fact, there are many countries where people have the right to vote.
- ✓ Inform your class that they are going to learn about another democratic country.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Tell your class they are going to collect information on another democratic country.
- ✓ Have your students vote to decide what country they want to learn about. Provide some ideas if necessary: France, Australia, etc.
- ✓ Once the class has chosen a country, start collecting magazines and newspapers that contain articles and pictures about the country. If at all possible, find articles that are written for children.
- ✓ Dedicate a bulletin board in the classroom to the articles and pictures.
- ✓ Bring these magazines and newspapers into school and show your students how you found the articles. Show them how you cut them out and attached them to the bulletin board.

- ✓ Read aloud what some of the articles say and explain what some of the pictures show. Make connections between the country the class selected and America — explain how the country is a democracy.
- ✓ Encourage your students to bring in any materials they can find on the country. They may want to ask their parents/guardians for help finding these items.
- ✓ Give your students time to make a contribution (it may take some time for them to find appropriate/related material). Announce intermittently any updates to the bulletin board.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ *What makes the country we learned about a democracy?*
- ★ *How is this country like the United States?*
- ★ *How is this country different than the United States?*