



SPOKESPEOPLE FOR KIDS VOTING USA

(Time varies)

OBJECTIVE

Students advocate voting throughout their school and community.

MATERIALS

Materials vary depending on what the students do to advocate voting.

GET READY

- ✓ Ask for student volunteers who would like to act as spokespeople for Kids Voting USA. Inform them that they have to be passionate about voting and democracy and willing to share that passion with their fellow students.
- ✓ Meet with the students who you think are responsible enough for the position.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Gather the students who will act as spokespeople for Kids Voting USA. Inform them that they have been selected to advocate Kids Voting USA because of their interest in democracy as well as their level of maturity.
- ✓ Arrange for these students to meet once or twice to create and carry out projects to promote voting throughout the school. Ask, *What messages do you want to share with the rest of the school? How can you influence other people to vote? How can you share with other students your passion for voting and democracy?*
- ✓ Students may come up with their own ideas for messages and how to disseminate these messages, though you may mention these ideas as a start:
 - ✓ Make signs to encourage classes and students to participate in the election.
 - ✓ Bring in daily information for an election bulletin board.

- ✓ Sponsor a forum on an issue or election.
- ✓ Make tally sheets for the school vote. This can be compiled in graph form.
- ✓ Count votes for the whole school.
- ✓ Count votes by class and grade level for comparison. Speak about apathy and how it influences a vote.
- ✓ Announce events and results over the intercom.
- ✓ Continue to collect material involving candidates and issues to inform the school on an ongoing basis.
- ✓ Remind your students to be conscious of when they are sharing opinions and when they are sharing facts. (They want to influence people to vote, but they should be careful not to influence how people vote.)
- ✓ Reward your Kids Voting USA spokespeople!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ *Does anyone have the job you just had during an adult election? Who are they and what do they do?*
- ★ *What can you do to promote an election when you are an adult?*
- ★ *Was it hard to convince people to vote? If yes, what made it so hard?*
- ★ *How were you best able to communicate your message to the other students? Do you think you were effective in sharing your message?*

MORE!

Have your student advocates share their message with the adult community, either in school or at home.