

**WHAT'S FOR KIDS?**

(20 minutes)

OBJECTIVE

Students investigate the services provided directly to children by their government.

MATERIALS

Telephone book; drawing paper, markers, crayons

GET READY

- ✓ Consult the telephone book's government pages to write down the names of programs in your town which provide services directly for children: Parks and Recreation, Pools, Museums, Libraries, Bicycle Registration, etc. Post these on your board.
- ✓ Gather sheets of paper, crayons, and markers.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Say, *In America, our government plans and organizes activities and services for the children in our communities.*
- ✓ Point out to your students that they take advantage of city services in many ways. Ask, *Who has a library card? Who plays in the park? Who is part of a soccer league?, etc.*
- ✓ Ask each student to choose a city service he/she likes to use and to draw a picture of him/her using the service. (Examples: swimming in the city pool, reading books at the library, visiting the children's museum, etc.)
- ✓ Instruct your students to share their drawings with each other.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ *Did any two or three people choose the same city service?*
- ★ *How does the town pay for the swimming pool, library, soccer field, etc.?*
- ★ *How does voting affect city services for kids?*

MORE!

Invite the director of parks and recreation or the museum or library director to speak to your class about programs for children.

Thanks to former Tempe, Arizona Mayor Neil Giuliano for assistance with this lesson.