LITERATURE CONNECTION ACTIVITY
Landslide! A Kid's Guide to the U.S. Elections by Dan Gutman

OBJECTIVE

Students investigate elections and the voting experience.

MATERIALS

Landslide! A Kid's Guide to the U.S. Elections – Dan Gutman

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

✔ Have your students become familiar with *Landslide! A Kid's Guide to the U.S. Elections* before reading it.

✔ To familiarize your students with the book, have them break up into groups and play a trivia game. Organize your students by teams of four or five and prepare six questions, one from each chapter of the book.

✔ One at a time, pose these questions to the groups. Students may know some answers offhand, so make sure to prepare a few more detail-oriented questions. Students should have the book at their disposal so that they can search for answers to your questions.

✔ Reward the team with the greatest number of correct answers.

✔ Read *Landslide! A Kid's Guide to the U.S. Elections* with your class.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

★ *What is the significance of voting? Why should everyone vote?*

★ *What does it take to run a successful campaign?*

★ *What are the qualities of a good candidate for office?*

★ *How do people determine who they are going to vote for?*

★ *What is the registration process? Why is it necessary?*

★ *After an election, what can you do to continue to make a difference?*

ACTIVITY

✔ Have your students master the material covered in the book. To do this, divide your students into six teams. Assign each group one chapter of the book to become experts on.

✔ Within each chapter, there are headings. Each heading is posed as a question, such as: "What does the president do when his term is over?" The individual teams should decide who is going to master which questions within their chapter.

✔ Have the groups stand in front of the class one by one. The other groups should scan their chapter and ask any questions they have.

✔ Make sure to ask at least four or five questions from each chapter.

✔ Consider rewarding teams that answer all their questions correctly.