

## DEMOCRACY LIFE

### OBJECTIVE

Students construct a concept map of households and discuss the ways that democracy impacts their lives.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- ★ Explain to your class that a useful way to think of democracy is to look at the household unit (the people who live together under the same roof). A democratic government, whether local, state, or national, provides services to the households of a community.
- ★ In groups, ask students to brainstorm different services the government provides for different members of a household at different times of the day: Examples: children – parks and library services, adults – roads to get to work, older people - health classes, everyone – drinks water.
- ★ Find a list of city, county, state, and federal services to help your thinking. Share your ideas with your group members.
- ★ Each group should next draw a concept map, working together. They should use logic to group the ideas and services based on age of the citizen, the level of government, the type of service, etc.
- ★ They can then present their map to the class.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ Which services used by all the people in the household? (Police, garbage, libraries etc.)
- ★ Which services would you miss the most if the community did not provide them?
- ★ If our government provides us these services, what is it that citizens provide back? (Taxes, votes, civic engagement)
- ★ Politicians often talk about the services they think are most important. Which ones are most important to you?
- ★ Why is it important that a democracy represent the people's interests?

### MORE RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES

Help your students to learn about government, find and analyze information, understand how informed, active citizens participate in democracy through elections and more. Find curriculum alignment guides, candidate and debate information, video, text, images, and more activities plus information about the student vote at [www.GenerationNation.org/learn](http://www.GenerationNation.org/learn)