

I KNOW WHAT I KNOW...

OBJECTIVE

Students learn how to form opinions and make good decisions.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ★ Tell students that a good decision is well thought out and based on information from many sources. Say: good decisions are based on information. What are good sources of information? These are great places for finding information on anything we want.
- ★ Conduct research on the candidate, issue, or subject the class selects. Research the topic using the web. A good list of news and government sites, candidate websites, and other sources is posted www.GenerationNation.org/learn in the resource database or candidate guide.
 - Each student, or team of students, will find one piece of information about the topic.
 - Encourage each student or team to use a different source.
 - Ask each student (or team) to share what they have learned with the class.
 - Have class briefly comment on information that is the same or different, from the varied sources.
- ★ Say: Now that we have learned about _____, does anyone want to share how they feel about it (share an opinion)?
 - Listen to responses and encourage students to explain why they feel the way they do (prompt them to mention the research sources).
- ★ Ask students to comment on how the information could be used to make a decision.
 - Using facts for decision-making.
 - Using opinions (yours and other people's) for decision-making.
 - Value of finding and comparing information from different sources.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ What is a decision? How do you make decisions? How do we make good decisions?
- ★ What makes some decisions good and other ones bad?
- ★ Give me an example of a good, or bad, decision. What made it good or bad?
- ★ Why is information important?
- ★ Why do you think it is important to gather information from many different places?
- ★ Can you believe everything you hear and see? Why or why not?
- ★ How do you decide if something is true?

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