

## SOLVING PROBLEMS

### OBJECTIVE

Students learn about different issues, choose one, and brainstorm solutions.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- ★ In class or for homework, have students each come up with one issue that they think is impacting the school, neighborhood, city, state, or country.
- ★ Have each student select what he/she thinks is the most important issue. Have them consider: What issue interested me the most? What issue matters the most to me, my neighborhood, and my community?
- ★ Students should write 1-3 sentences or draw a picture about the issue.
- ★ Students share their issues with the class.
- ★ Ask students to look for any similar themes or topics. Group the issues so that there are 5-7 for the class.
- ★ Divide the class into groups, with one group taking on one issue.
- ★ Ask each group to consider the issue assigned to them. They should think about how it impacts people, and identify a possible solution to report to the class.
- ★ Example- Issue: our neighborhood needs places where children can play. Solution: build a park.
- ★ Have your students share the issues and solutions with the class.

Use the GenerationNation My Wish for America/My Community activity for further learning.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ What are some of our community's (or country's) needs and problems?
- ★ What are some solutions to these problems? Why do you think these are good solutions?
- ★ What are some of the sources of these problems? How do you think they started?
- ★ What can citizens do to solve these problems?
- ★ What can officials do to solve these issues?
- ★ How can we find out which level of government is responsible for (issue)?
- ★ Are any candidates talking about this issue? Are any candidates offering solutions?

### 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)