



Using the Kids Voting USA Curriculum

To access free online lessons about elections and voting, democracy, media literacy, citizenship, civic engagement and more, take the following steps:

1. Go to www.kidsvotingusa.org/curriculum
2. A **login page** will open.

New users

- Click on the “**register**” link
- Enter, and re-enter, **your email address**
- Fill in your **first name** and **last name**
- For affiliate name, write “**Kids Voting Charlotte**”
- Fill in your **school name** and **city**
- Choose your **state** from the drop-down box
- Create, and re-enter, a **password**
- Fill in the “captcha” **code**
- Click “**register**”

Within a period of time, you will receive an email from Kids Voting USA a confirmation and other login information

Returning users

- Login using your email and password

3. After you log in, an **introductory curriculum page** will open. At the bottom of the page, select the appropriate links for

K-2 activities

3-5 activities

6-8 activities

9-12 activities

4. Using the curriculum

The **Kids Voting USA curriculum** is designed to be **flexible and easy to incorporate** into existing lesson plans. Within each age grouping, activities are divided into 4 major themes. From the curriculum page, click on the appropriate theme to access the individual activities.

Elections and Voting

The intent of this theme is to educate students about elections, from gaining an appreciation of the power of voting including what suffrage is and why it is an important concept today to understanding the registration process and participating in an election. The theme's activities fall under three concepts: My Vote Gives Me Power; I Register and Vote; and Suffrage Then and Now. *Note: lessons in other themes tie in to elections and voting*

Democracy and the People

The intent of this theme is to provide an understanding of and a context for American democracy and citizenship, from the rights and responsibilities of students in their local, state and national communities to the world beyond. The theme's activities fall under four concepts: What is Democracy; Democracy in America; A Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities; and Democracy in the World.

Informed Citizen

The intent of this theme is for students to learn how to evaluate information, intelligently form decisions and communicate your positions to others. The theme's activities fall under three concepts: I Study the Candidates and Issues; Gathering and Weighing Information; and Technology/Media Literacy.

Civic Engagement/Service Learning

The intent of this theme is for students to practice the skills of democratic living as they learn important civic lessons in the classroom and participate in activities in their communities. The theme's activities fall under three concepts: Working Together; I Make A Difference; and Communicating with Others.

5. For your convenience, a PDF file of each activity is available for printing

6. **ESL resources** are also available on the website

7. Curriculum is **aligned to national, state and district standards and goals**. Alignment guides for the Common Core, North Carolina Essential Standards for Social Studies and other correlations are being developed in mid-2012. This content will be posted at www.generationnation.org and shared with teacher contacts. Contact info@kidsvoting.org for information.