

6.2 CIVICS: ALL STUDENTS WILL KNOW, UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE VALUES AND PRINCIPLES OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY AND THE RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND ROLES OF A CITIZEN IN THE NATION AND THE WORLD.

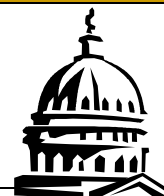
Grades K-2

6.2.2.A. Civic Life, Politics and Government

1. Explain the need for rules, laws, and government.
3. Describe how American citizens can participate in community and political life.
4. Explain that justice means fairness to all.
5. Explain that a responsibility means something you must or should do.
6. Explore basic concepts of diversity, tolerance, fairness, and respect for others.

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Framework97 References

Our Basic Rights, pp. 34
Identify Symbols of American Principles and Beliefs, pp. 43-45

National History Standard

- I. What is Government and What Should It Do?
- V. What are the Roles of the Citizen in American Democracy?

Content Overview

The basic ingredients of a “civic core” for education of Americans began here. This section covers the need for and purpose of government, how American citizens participate, the concepts of justice and fairness, and the meaning and application of justice. Also examined are the issues of responsibility, tolerance, and respect for others.

Essential Questions

What should citizens know? What are the central themes and questions on democratic, constitutional government across the grades?
Why are government and rules necessary for a properly functioning society?
What is our individual and collective responsibility to the effective working of the American system?

In how many ways can American citizens play a role in our political system?
How and why are diversity and tolerance important to us as American citizens?
How can we teach our students to respect themselves and others?

Teaching Resources

The Center for Civic Education (5146 Douglas Fir Road, Calabasas, CA 91302) is a major source for curriculum materials in all aspects of civic education. The web link is www.abc.net.au/civics. A wide range of resources are listed for teaching civics and citizenship.

Assessment

Students work in cooperative groups to make a list of classroom rules. The class comes to consensus on the rules. A committee develops a poster of rules to hang in the classroom. A group of students are selected as judges. Students have alternate turns serving as judges. When a student breaks one of the rules, the classroom judges decide on the consequences and ensure the student complies with the decision. If a student has gone before the judges, he/she is not eligible to be a judge.