

DEMOCRATIC VALUES LESSON PLAN

Teacher Guide

Level	Learning Area	Strands	Topic
5 & 6	Humanities: Civics and citizenship	• Government and democracy	Democratic values

Overview

The aim of this lesson plan is to give teachers a range of ideas and activities to:

- Facilitate student understanding of the democratic values that underpin Australia's representative democracy and compare our form of government with other countries
- Promote student understanding of the concept of voting
- Encourage student engagement with their representatives in local government and in the Parliament of Victoria in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council

Curriculum Links

Victorian Curriculum F-10

Level	Learning Area	Strands	Curriculum Code
5 & 6	Humanities: Civics and citizenship	• Government and democracy	VCCCG008; VCCCG010
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discuss the values and principles and institutions that underpin Australia's democratic forms of government- Identify and discuss the key features of the Australian electoral process	
	Capabilities	Strand	Curriculum Code
	Critical and creative thinking	• Questions and Possibilities	VCCCTQ021
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Examine how different kinds of questions can be used to identify and clarify information, dates and possibilities	

Learning Goals

By the end of these lessons, students will be able to:

- Understand the concept of a democracy
- Identify some democratic values
- Describe two examples of democratic values: voting and representative government
- Conduct a fair and democratic voting process

- Demonstrate how a representative government works
- Identify (name) their representatives in local government, the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council

Resources and Materials

Included with this lesson plan are:

- Teacher guide
- Teacher instructions: learning activities
- Democratic values checklist x 2 worksheet
- Word jumble: Thinking about democracy, and answer sheet

You will need:

- *Journeys: Inside the Parliament* (EAL version)
This is a free data disk available by emailing: educationinfo@parliament.vic.gov.au
- Scissors to cut up word jumble (if using option 1)
- Enough small pieces of paper (voting cards) for each student
- For the extension activity access to:
electorallookup.vec.gov.au and www.parliament.vic.gov.au/members
- For teacher reference:
www.parliament.vic.gov.au/about/the-parliamentary-system/the-electoral-process
www.parliament.vic.gov.au/about/the-parliamentary-system/the-electoral-process#voting
www.parliament.vic.gov.au/images/stories/documents/education/Inside_the_Parliament_of_Victoria_2015.pdf

Learning Activities Summary

1. Warm-up: Group decision-making activity - Where do you want to go for a school camp?
2. Democratic values: checklist
3. What is a democracy? Victoria vs other examples around the world
4. Democratic values jumble (match the value to the meaning)
5. What is voting?
6. Representative democracy: class activity
7. Group decision-making activity revisited - Where do you want to go for an excursion? Using representatives and the voting process
8. Extension activity: Find my representatives in local government and the Victorian Parliament

Achievement Standard

By the end of these lessons students will meet the needs of the achievement standards in Levels 5 and 6 Civics and Citizenship by being able to:

- Discuss the values and principles that underpin Australia's democratic forms of government
- Identify and discuss some of the key features of the Australian electoral process
- Identify various ways people can participate effectively to achieve shared goals

