

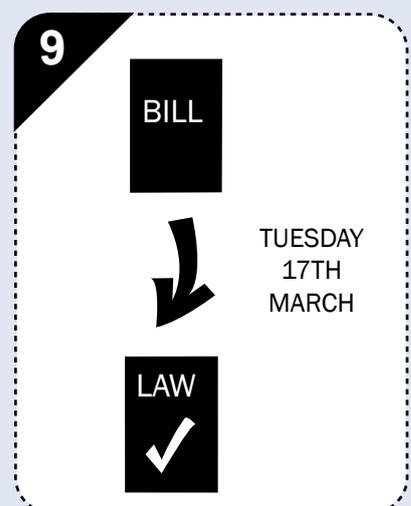
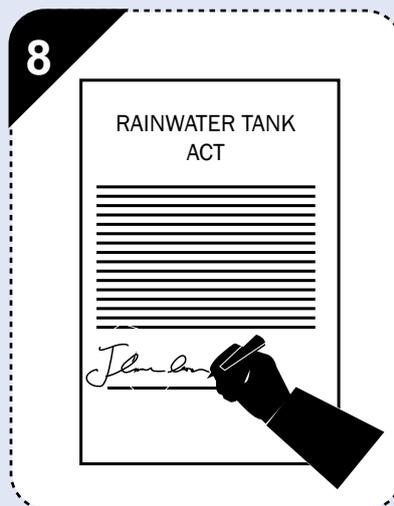
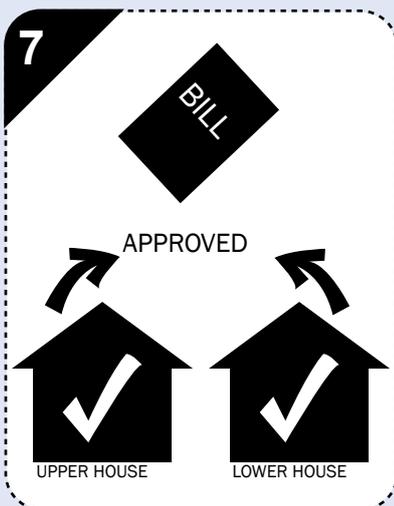
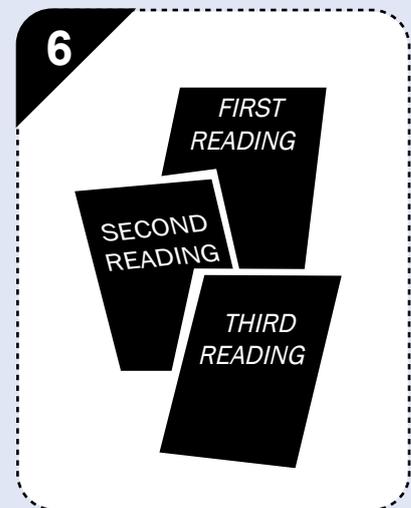
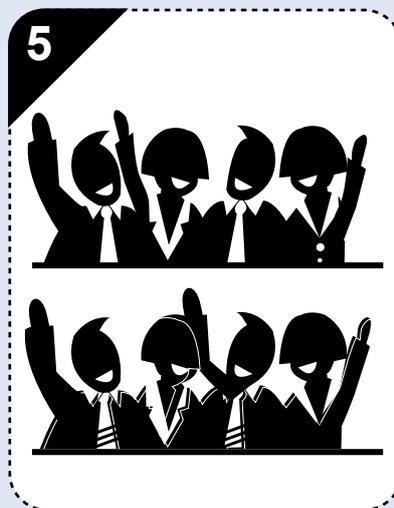
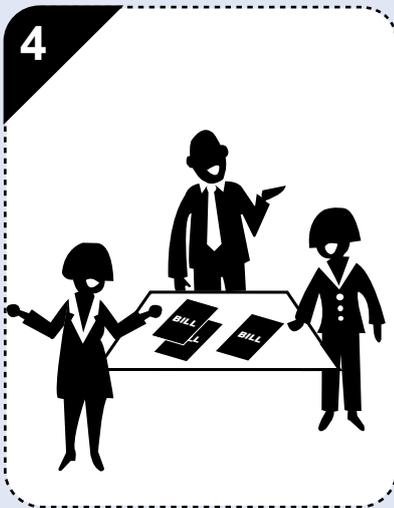
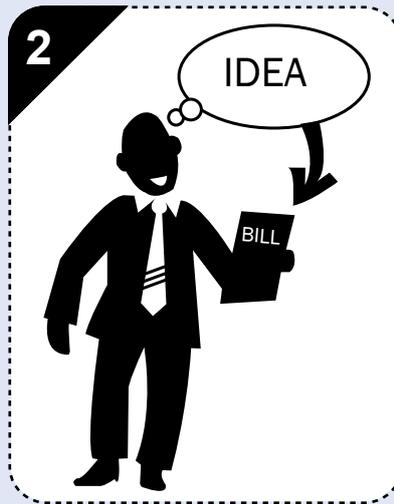
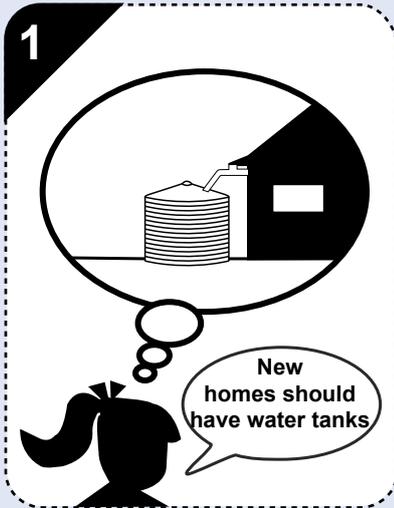


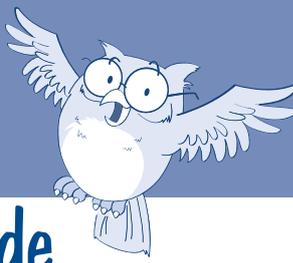
ACTIVITY

How a Law is Made

One of the main reasons for having a Parliament is to pass laws. These are called **Acts of Parliament**. For a law to be made, it has to go through both Houses of Parliament and be debated. You may have seen this happening or had it described to you.

Here are the special steps that are needed for a law to be passed – in drawings and in words.





How a Law is Made

The drawings on the previous page showing how a law is passed are in the correct order, but the captions for them below are not.

Cut out the drawings and the captions. 

Position the drawings in order on a large sheet of paper.

Paste the appropriate captions below each one.

Draw arrows to show how each stage leads to the next.



The idea has to be written in a special form, called a bill. If passed, the bill becomes a law.

When it is first presented to one of the Houses of Parliament, the bill goes through the First Reading, which means that the title of the bill is announced. (This dates back to when many MPs couldn't read, and the Clerk would read out the details of the bill).

In the other House the same three readings take place.

People have ideas about what the law should do. For example, it might be a law about speed limits, control of dogs, health, education, water conservation or transport.

The Act now becomes a law from a set date.

The bill has to be passed by a majority of the Members in each House. When both Houses have agreed to it, it goes to the Governor.

The final stage is the Third Reading, where the bill is voted on. If it passes, it goes to the other House.

Then all MPs get a copy of the bill and can debate it. This is called the Second Reading.

When the Governor, as a representative of the Queen, signs it, it becomes an Act (law).

You have made your own poster!

