

Election-Year Guiding Questions

Use these guiding questions as stand-alone discussion starters or in conjunction with election-related lessons to help reinforce critical thinking and analysis skills.

- Are the candidates being good citizens? Why do you say that?
 - As a citizen/person living in the United States, how can I both know what's going on in our local, state, and national government AND how can I influence those governments?
 - How do the political parties use symbols to connect or communicate with people?
 - How can I decide who to vote for?
 - Why do the candidates want to be president/governor/senator?
 - Are the candidates being good speakers and listeners? Why do you say that?
 - How does a candidate win the election?
 - What issues do candidates want to influence? What can/will the candidate do about the issue if elected?
 - What are the issues the candidates talk about? Why do they talk about those issues?
 - Do the candidates use more opinion or fact when talking about issues?
 - What are the strengths, weaknesses and consequences of the candidates' proposals?
 - Why should I vote?
 - How do I evaluate sources? What is a "quality" source? Who should I believe?
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