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# #10567 **WE VOTE**

**NEW DIMENSION MEDIA, 2003** 

Grade Level: K-6 10 Minutes





### CAPTIONED MEDIA PROGRAM RELATED RESOURCES

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# TEACHER'S GUIDE

### We Vote

(Primary Citizenship Series)

Grade Level: 1-3 Subject area: Social Studies, Citizenship, U.S. History

#### SYNOPSIS:

Kevin, a third grade student, traces the history of voting in the United States and explains why it is important for citizens to express their opinions by voting. Explores the concepts of citizenship, duty, and respect, and introduces voting as an important responsibility of citizens. Reviews the history of voting in the United States, covering women's suffrage, the Voting Rights Acts of 1964 and 1965, and the 26th Amendment, which lowered the voting age to 18.

#### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Objective 1) Students will be able to define citizenship, duty, and respect

Objective 2) Students will be able to explain that voting is a right and a responsibility for citizens in democracies

Objective 3) Students will be able to discuss how citizens express their opinions and participate in the government by voting

Objective 4) Students will be able to explain how women, African

18-20 year-olds won the right to vote through protests and demonstrations

#### PRE-VIEWING DISCUSSION OR ACTIVITIES:

- 1) What is a citizen? What rights do citizens have? What responsibilities do citizens have? What does it mean to be a good citizen?
- 2) Have you ever helped your family or friends make a decision? What was it? How did you help make the decision? Have you ever voted on anything? How did you feel when you helped make a decision? Did it feel like a privilege? Did it feel like a big responsibility?

#### POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION

- 1) Why does Kevin like Fridays? Who decides what his class will do on Friday afternoons? How does the class decide? According to Kevin's teacher, what do the students learn by voting on their class activity?
- 2) What does it mean to be a citizen? How can you be a good citizen? What are the rights and responsibilities of being a citizen of your class at school? What are the rights and responsibilities of being a citizen of your community? What are the rights and responsibilities of being a citizen of the United States?

- 3) What types of things do adults vote on? Why do you think voting is important?
- 4) What is a democracy? What special responsibilities do citizens in a democracy have?
- 5) What is the purpose of the United States Constitution? What does the Constitution say to citizens? What does it say to the rest of the world?
- 6) At the time of the American Revolution, who could vote? Who was not allowed to vote? Who is allowed to vote today? Who isn't allowed to vote today?
- 7) How did women like Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton help women win the right to vote? How long did women speak out for the right to vote?
- 8) How did Martin Luther King, Jr. and other civil rights workers achieve voting rights for African Americans?
- 9) Why did young people want the voting age lowered to 18? Do you think it was fair that 18-year-olds couldn't vote? Why or why not?
- 10) When people feel they aren't being treated fairly by the government, what should they do? What actions can they take to bring change?
- 11) What is a ballot? What did the ballots in the first elections in the United States look like? What did the colors of the ballots tell other people about how a person had voted? Is it a good idea for everyone to know how everyone else voted? Why or why not? What do ballots look like now? Why do you think people like to vote in privacy?

#### **VOCABULARY:**

citizen, citizenship, rights, duty, respect, voting, elections, laws, democracy, government, American Revolution, United States Constitution, Bill of Rights, protests, petitions, opinions, unfair laws

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