

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

This resource is intended to improve civic literacy, introduce the concepts of governance and democracy, increase awareness about the workings of government in Canada, teach students how to effectively participate as active and informed citizens in their community.

The lessons build upon each other, but they can also be used as stand-alone activities depending on the needs of your classroom and schedule. Below is a brief description of the components of each lesson.

Background Information for Teachers: The opening section of each lesson covers key terms and concepts related to the theme of the lesson. The overview is intended to enhance teacher knowledge and understanding. Not all terms and concepts are necessarily covered in the lesson.

Guiding Questions: Essential queries to bring a clear focus of the lesson and direct student learning. Share these questions with students at the beginning of the lesson to support an awareness of the overarching learning outcomes and promote involvement.

Purpose: Provides a brief understanding of the learning and activities of the lesson.

Learning Outcomes: The sample criteria describe in specific terms what successful attainment of the learning outcomes will look like for students.

Introduction: Opening activity to introduce the topic and get students thinking about the forthcoming ideas.

Activities: The central activities are intended to introduce new learning or extend/reinforce prior learning, and to provide opportunities for practice and application of learning.

Conclusion: The final stage helps students demonstrate what they have learned and provide opportunities for consolidation and reflection.

Tips for Teachers: General or lesson-specific reminders and suggestions have been provided to assist with the implementation of the lesson. Teacher notes have also been included within the lesson where needed.

Assessment for Student Learning: Includes suggested ideas that teachers can use to assess student comprehension, learning needs and progress during the lesson or unit.

Support Tools: Slide decks, videos, handouts and editable activity sheets have been produced to support the lessons. All of the online files and multimedia tools can be found on the Student Vote Alberta project website (www.studentvote.ca/ab2019).

NewsWise tools: CIVIX has developed the NewsWise initiative to help students think critically about information, develop habits of source evaluation, and build awareness of the role of journalism in democracy. Several of these tools have been incorporated into the lessons. Resources can be accessed at www.newswise.ca.