

How to Use This Resource

This resource is intended to improve civic literacy, introduce the concepts of democracy and elections, increase awareness about municipal government and school trustees, and teach students how to effectively participate as responsible 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.

Guiding Questions:

Critical queries to bring a clear focus to 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 Goals and to enhance engagement.

Overview:

Provides a brief summary of the learning and activities of the lesson.

Learning Goals:

Concrete knowledge and competencies that students are expected to have acquired or are working towards from the activities completed in each lesson.

Success Criteria:

Describes in specific terms what successful attainment of the learning goals looks like.

Curriculum Links:

Provides connections to the appropriate Ontario curriculum document in order for teachers to clearly see how the unit aligns with their course.

Tips for Teachers:

Reminders or suggestions to assist with the delivery of the lesson along with a list of required or optional supplies and needs.

Supplies/Needs:

A list of support materials you will need for the lesson activities.

Strategies:

Each lesson has been broken down into three segments. You are encouraged to pick and choose from the strategies and related support tools based on the needs of your classroom and available time.

- **Starter:** Suggested opening activity, meant to pique interest in the topic and lesson.
- **Activities:** A series of key activities that help students understand and apply the essential concepts, and develop key competencies.
- **Consolidation:** Concluding questions and tasks to summarize and reflect on what was learned throughout the lesson.

Assessment Opportunities:

Designed to inform and guide next steps, and help teachers and students monitor their progress towards achieving the Learning Goals.

Adaptations and Supports:

A few reminders and suggestions for language learners, culturally responsive pedagogy and accessibility as well as accommodation considerations.

Background Information for Teachers:

This information covers key terms and concepts related to the theme of the lesson. The purpose is to enhance teacher knowledge and understanding. Not all terms and concepts are covered in the lesson.