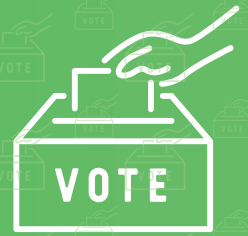


Create a Political Party



Activity Overview

This activity helps young people think about the role of political parties in our democracy.

Materials

Questions for display on classroom screen
Flipchart paper
Markers

Activity Instructions

Divide the class into small groups. Ask them to imagine they are forming a new political party. Display the questions (see Resource 1) on your classroom screen and ask your pupils to refer to them when developing the characteristics of their new political party.

Ask the pupils to present their ideas to the class and reflect on the qualities of the different political parties formed. Ask them to consider:

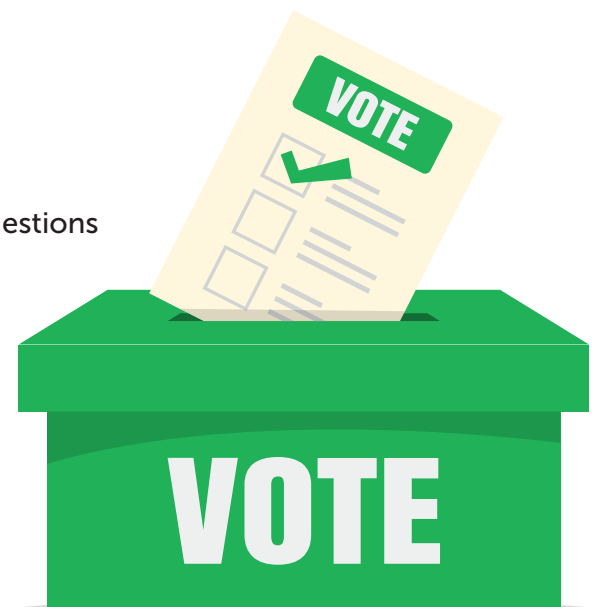
- Are the parties similar or different?
- Did individuals in the groups have to compromise? How?
- If you were working on your own, would you have done things differently?
- What were the benefits and disadvantages of working as a team to create your political party?

Point out that in real life, every political party has people with different opinions and ideas. It is healthy to debate important issues and attempt to reach consensus. Talk about if this is something your pupils experienced, while taking part in this activity.

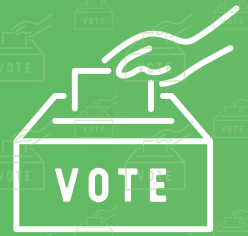
There is a diverse range of political parties in the UK (over 400 listed in 2019). Ask the pupils to:

- list all the parties they can think of;
- research their main policies; and
- find out how much parties spend on elections in the UK and compare this to what is spent in the United States.

Display **Resource 1: Design Your Own Political Party Questions** on screen to scaffold the activity. Ask the pupils to work in small groups to answer the prompt questions.



Create a Political Party



Resource 1: Design Your Own Political Party Questions

What is your party called?

Design a logo.

Who is the leader?

What are the leader's qualities?

What are your top three policies?

Which elections will you stand in?
[Local Council, Northern Ireland Assembly or UK Parliament]

Who are your political rivals?

How will you encourage people to become members of your party?

How will you appeal to voters?

