



THE GOVERNOR'S HATS

(30-40 minutes)

OBJECTIVE

Students examine the jobs of the **governor** to discuss facets of American democracy.

MATERIALS

The Hat Patterns handout; *The Governor's Work* handout; boxes

GET READY

- ✓ Divide your students into groups of three.
- ✓ Copy and cut apart *The Hat Patterns* handout. Place each hat on the front of an open box.
- ✓ Copy and cut apart a set of *The Governor's Work* cards for each group of three.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Prepare your class for the activity with a discussion of the powers and duties of the **governor**.
- ✓ Give each group a set of *The Governor's Work* cards.
- ✓ Instruct each group to discuss each card, decide which job goes to which hat, and place the cards in the correct hat box.
- ✓ When all the cards are in the hat boxes, invite a student to stand by each box, draw the cards out, and then read them to the class.
- ✓ You can keep track of the cards by posting them on the board or by taping them to the front of the boxes.
- ✓ Go over which duties belonged to each job. (You can pass out the answers; a handout is provided.)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ *What do you think is the governor's most important job? Why?*
- ★ *Why were some of the same cards dropped in different boxes? (This will inevitably happen, and is a good time to address that the governor's different responsibilities may intersect.)*
- ★ *Which hat would you like to wear? Why?*
- ★ *Which hat would you not like to wear? Why?*
- ★ *How does a governor learn to do all these jobs?*
- ★ *How could you prepare yourself to be governor?*
- ★ *Which jobs do you think the current governor does either poorly or well?*
- ★ (If an election is forthcoming), *Which candidate do you think is most prepared?*
- ★ *If you don't know, how could you find out?*
- ★ *How do you think the governor of the state of Ohio is different from other world leaders?*
- ★ *What characteristics do you think a governor should have?*

DEVELOP A GRAPH

- ✓ Create a chart on the board identifying the hats of the **governor**. Ask the students which hat they think is most important.
- ✓ Have a student volunteer to tally the votes as you call on one student at a time. Each student gets to vote once.
- ✓ Create a bar graph on the board. Using the chart information, have students fill in the correct number of votes each hat received.

**THE GOVERNOR'S HATS** (continued)**MORE QUESTIONS**

- ★ *Which hat got the most number of votes?
Does this make it the most important job of
the governor?*
- ★ *Which hat got the least number of votes?
Does this make it the least important job
of the governor?*
- ★ *What do you think the governor would say is
the most important thing he does?*



THE GOVERNOR'S HATS (continued)



 **THE GOVERNOR'S HATS** (continued)





THE GOVERNOR'S HATS

(30-40 minutes)

The Governor's Work

Major fundraiser for campaigns	Holds press conferences
Officially represents State of Ohio at national events	Responsible for all state military personnel & equipment
Prepares the state's budget	Campaigns for others in his/her political party
Calls special sessions of Ohio's General Assembly	Appoints state officials and fills vacancies in state offices
Orders special operations for Ohio's security	Grants pardons for crimes
Hosts ceremonies & dinners for officials	Enforces legislation passed by Ohio General Assembly
Develops state policies	Helps determine political party policies and annual platform
Delivers annual State of the State address	Responsible for the safety & security of the citizens of Ohio
	Signs or vetoes law passed by Ohio General Assembly



THE GOVERNOR'S HATS

(30-40 minutes)

Answers to the Governor's Hats

Head of State

- Hosts ceremonies & dinners for visiting officials
- Calls special sessions of the Ohio General Assembly
- Delivers annual State of the State address
- Officially represents State of Ohio at national events

Commander-in-Chief

- Responsible for all state military personnel & equipment
- Responsible for the safety & security of the citizens of Ohio
- Orders special operations for Ohio's security

Chief Executive

- Signs or veto laws passed by Ohio General Assembly
- Enforces legislation passed by Ohio General Assembly
- Prepares the state's budget
- Develops state policies
- Holds press conferences
- Call special sessions of Ohio's General Assembly
- Grants pardons for crimes

Political Party Chief

- Major fundraiser for campaigns
- Campaigns for others in his/her political party
- Helps determine party policies & annual platform