



THE NAME GAME

(20 minutes)

OBJECTIVE

Students discover the importance of voter registration.

MATERIALS

Kids Voting Registration Cards handout; slips of paper; a paper bag or equivalent

GET READY

- ✓ Copy enough *Kids Voting Registration Cards* for your class.
- ✓ Write the words “same” and “different” on two slips of paper and place them in a container or paper bag so students cannot see what they are picking.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Ask your students to privately give themselves a new name, write it on a slip of paper, and keep it hidden from the other students.
- ✓ In seat order, ask each student to stand and announce his or her new name. As the teacher, write down the new names of the students (beside their real names on a student roster) so you can keep track. Tell the class to listen carefully to their classmates’ new names because they will need to remember them without being able to write them down.
- ✓ Next, have each student draw a slip of paper from the container and say either the same name he/she said earlier or a different one as indicated by the slip of paper.
- ✓ Ask the class to remember whether it was the same or a different name. Have your students vote by a show of hands and tell the class whether or not they are correct. If they are wrong, remind them of the name they had forgotten.

- ✓ Once every student has drawn from the bag, talk with your class about the importance of voter registration. Point out that without registering, some people might try to vote multiple times.
- ✓ Copy and give each student a *Kids Voting Registration Card* to fill out. Collect the cards and return them the day before elections so each student can take their card to the polls.
- ✓ Fold a piece of lined paper in half and have each student sign on the left hand side. Save the paper to use as a registration list for the voting simulation activity.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ *Was this game difficult or easy in your opinion? What made it so?*
- ★ *How was this game like voter registration?*
- ★ *What might happen if people did not have to register?*
- ★ *Can you think of other ways than registration that we could use to make sure people voted only once? Any futuristic ideas?*

MORE!

Help coordinate a school registration day for both students and parents. Invite a deputy registrar for parents and let students register for the Kids Voting USA election at the same time. See local Teachers Handbook for more information.



KIDS VOTING REGISTRATION CARDS

 Voter Registration Student _____ Teacher _____ School _____	 Voter Registration Student _____ Teacher _____ School _____
 Voter Registration Student _____ Teacher _____ School _____	 Voter Registration Student _____ Teacher _____ School _____