

Community

Making Democracy



Years 5 & 6

Your students will learn about the values of Australian democracy and the key features of the electoral process. They will learn about the responsibilities of the three levels of government. Your students will learn about the Stolen Generations and the fight for equal rights in Australia. They will set personal and social goals and work as a class towards a common goal.

Rationale

It is important to understand the values of your community, the rules that are designed to protect your rights, and the responsibilities you have to others.

Essential questions

- What are the values of Australian democracy?
- What are roles of the levels of government in Australia?
- How are elections conducted in Australia?
- How can we refine our ideas as we make an argument?
- What are the responsibilities of leaders and followers?

Glossary

bill, citizen, constitution, democracy, election, government, Governor-General, House of Representatives, law, majority, monarchy, nation, parliament, Prime Minister, referendum, representative, Senate, state, territory, the Commonwealth, the Queen, vote, Westminster system

Rich assessment task

Your students will use what they learnt about the values and processes of Australia democracy to decide what issue they will raise awareness of. Each student will be responsible for one aspect of the project that the class votes for. Each student will also set personal and social goals that they aim to achieve during the unit.

Future action

Your students will be able to participate in school elections with an understanding of preferential voting and silent ballots. They will be able to participate in discussions about news and issues that relate to the values of Australian democracy and the parliamentary system. Your students will be able to formulate an argument and participate in a structured debate.