



Women's Suffrage

By: Janelle Cox
M.S. in Education

Social Studies
Grades 3–5



Introduction

Students will learn about the women's suffrage movement and the 19th amendment, as well as the importance of voting. They will do this by partaking in a whole-group exercise, watching a video, and working with a partner on a speech for the right to vote.

Learning Objectives

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1.A](#), [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1.B](#), [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1.C](#), [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1.D](#);

Students will be able to write about the women's suffrage movement and the 19th amendment, as well as explain the importance of voting.

Materials Needed

- [Suffrage Educational Video](#)

Procedure

To begin the lesson divide the students into two groups, group A and group B, and have them stand on opposite sides of the classroom. Next, inform students that they will be voting on whether to have a classroom pizza party or an ice cream social. Then, allow students a few minutes to think about what they want to vote for. Tell students it's time to vote but only group A can vote today, and group B is never allowed to vote. Then invite group A to the board to cast their vote and announce the result of the choice of food for the classroom party.

Activity 1: Whole-group instruction

1. Ask students to share how they felt about the activity they just participated in. Ask students "How did it feel to be able to vote?" and "How did it feel to not be able to vote?" Allow time for all students to answer the question.
2. Explain to students that this happened to many people in history (women, the poor, African Americans, etc.)
3. Inform students that they are going to be learning about the Women's Suffrage Movement. This was a movement to change the law so that women had the right to vote. Ask students if they know what the word suffrage means? Then explain that it means the right to vote and participate in political elections.
4. Next, discuss that many women began to campaign for their right to vote. Eventually, the 19th Amendment was established in 1920 to allow women the right to vote.

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Activity 2: Suffrage video

1. Show students the short, three-minute video on the Suffrage Movement and the right to vote.
2. After the video ask students if they have any questions on the Suffrage Movement or the video they just watched.

Activity 3: Partner-speech

1. Break students up into pairs and challenge students to write a speech on why they think it's important for all citizens to have the right to vote.
2. Once students have written their speeches, allow time for students to share them with their classmates.

Evaluation

Assess students on their knowledge of the Suffrage Movement through their speeches.