

MPS/MOEC Teaching American History Grant Lesson Plan Template

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District: Millard Public Schools

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Lesson Title: The Technology of Voting

<p>NE Standards 8.1.5 12.3.9</p>	<p>Overview Students will be able to describe the impact of inventions. Students will explain the rights, freedoms, responsibilities and benefits of citizenship in the United States.</p>
<p>Age Level</p>	<p>Established Goals (Learning Objectives) Students will have an understanding of the different voting technology used in the United States the past 200 years.</p>
<p>Duration</p>	<p>Understandings (Background Knowledge) Students should have some basic understand of the rights and responsibilities of a citizen and the democratic process.</p>
<p>Materials</p>	<p>Essential Questions (Engaging Question) How do your parents vote? (Transition to the technology involved in voting.)</p>
	<p>Learning Activities (Procedure) Day 1 Introduce voting as the foundation for our democracy. Have students share any previous knowledge on what the voting process is like and how votes are tabulated. Introduce the different technology that has been used to count votes throughout the years. Divide class into 8 groups. Each group is to research one aspect of voting technology and create a minimum 3 slide Powerpoint presentation. The first slide should include an illustration and the 2nd and 3rd slides should include the pros/strengths and cons/weaknesses of this technology. The eight groups are as follows and are briefly summarized in the first link: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Before Ballots 2) The First Ballots 3) The Paper Ballot 4) The Australian Paper Ballot 5) Lever Voting Machines 6) Punch Card Voting 7) Optical Mark-Sense Scanners 8) Direct Recording Voting Machines. Begin research in class using classroom set of laptops or library computers.</p>

	<p>Day 2 Continue computer research using provided sites. Completed Powerpoint should be placed in teacher handin folder on the server. (Merge all Powerpoints together for next presentations the following day.)</p> <p>Day 3 Student presentations of voting technology. Upon conclusion of presentations, discuss overall strengths and weaknesses. Have students research for homework and give a 3 paragraph response to the following question: Is our state's voting technology fair and accurate?</p>
	<p>Technology Links: http://www.cs.uiowa.edu/~jones/voting/pictures/ http://inventors.about.com/library/weekly/aa111300b.htm?once=true& www.votersunite.org www.votetrustusa.org www.votingmachinesprocon.org www.verifiedvoting.org www.electionline.org www.commoncause.org www.blackboxvoting.org www.pfaw.org</p>
	<p>Differentiated Instructional Strategies (Learning Advice) For students that are struggling, the teacher might preview and eliminate some of the sights, narrowing it down to 3 -4.</p>
	<p>Assessment Evidence: Have students research for homework and give a 3 paragraph response to the following question: Is our state's voting technology fair and accurate?</p>