

POP! TEACHER RESOURCE

Lesson Plan

Focus on Government

Lesson Plan for *Government and Community*
Grade 1

Objective

To introduce students to the basics of government and to build their vocabulary for describing how a government works.

Things Needed

- *Government and Community* book
- Whiteboard

Before the Activity

Write the following words on the whiteboard to create a word bank: *community, election, government, laws, service, tax, vote*. Then write the following list of fill-in-the-blank sentences:

- A _____ is a place where people live, work, and play.
- A neighborhood is an example of a _____.
- A _____ is work done to help someone.
- Firefighters are an example of a _____ in a community.
- Many services come from the _____.
- The _____ is the people who run a community.
- People in a community _____ for leaders to run their government.
- When people _____, they offer a choice in an election.
- An _____ is when people vote for their government leaders.
- The person with the most votes wins the _____ and becomes a government leader.
- The _____ makes rules for a community.
- These rules are called _____.
- The _____ decides how to spend money in a community.
- When people in a community earn money, they pay _____.
- A _____ is money that people pay to the government.
- Tax money is used to pay for _____ such as schools, parks, and roads.



Activity

Read *Government and Community* out loud to students. Explain that the sentences on the whiteboard are missing vocabulary words from the book. All the answers appear in the word bank on the whiteboard, but some answers may be used more than once.

Read the sentences out loud, one at a time. If students think they know an answer, they should raise their hand. You will choose one student to come up to the whiteboard and copy the word into the blank. Repeat until the students have filled in all the blanks.

Evaluation

Use the answer key to check students' work.

Answer Key

- A **community** is a place where people live, work, and play.
- A neighborhood is an example of a **community**.
- A **service** is work done to help someone.
- Firefighters are an example of a **service** in a community.
- Many services come from the **government**.
- The **government** is the people who run a community.
- People in a community **vote** for leaders to run their government.
- When people **vote**, they offer a choice in an election.
- An **election** is when people vote for their government leaders.
- The person with the most votes wins the **election** and becomes a government leader.
- The **government** makes rules for a community.
- These rules are called **laws**.
- The **government** decides how to spend money in a community.
- When people in a community earn money, they pay **tax**.
- A **tax** is money that people pay to the government.
- Tax money is used to pay for **services** such as schools, parks, and roads.

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 1 (RI 1.4).

