

# Voting

This voting set is intended to be used as a supplemental resource to your social studies unit.

Resources included:

- Voting and elections concept passages
- Mock Election Materials

Concepts covered in this unit include:  
**Voting**

**Voting Requirements**  
**Political Parties**  
**Candidates**  
**Campaign Trail**  
**Type of Elections**  
**Election Day**  
**Inauguration Day**

The image shows the cover of a digital and paper option for a 'No Prep Social Studies' unit on voting. The title 'VOTING' is in large blue letters at the top, followed by 'No Prep Social Studies'. Below the title is a cartoon illustration of a person holding an American flag. In the foreground, there are several preview images of the included worksheets and a tablet displaying the digital version of the resource. The bottom right corner features the text 'DIGITAL & PAPER OPTION' and 'Created by Jessica Tobin'.

# Voting and Election Concepts

**Voting**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Know \_\_\_\_\_ What I Want to Know \_\_\_\_\_

What is Voting?

Voting is an important part of the way the government works. The United States has a type of government. A democracy has elected officials are elected by the people. Each eligible voter can vote for who they want to represent them. People can vote for who they want to lead. The person with the most votes wins the election. People can vote in a few different ways. There are places set up with polling stations. People can vote there. They can also fill out a ballot ahead of time and mail it in.

I. What is a democracy?

**Voting Requirements**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Explain each of the voting requirements.

**Voting Requirements**

While most people in the United States can vote, there are some requirements. Voters must be 18 years old to be eligible to vote. That means they need to be a citizen. People must register with their state to live in the state they are registered in. Helps with state government voting too. You must also be a United States citizen. The stations, or polls, have specific hours. People make sure they get to the polls to vote during those hours. If they are late, their vote will not be counted.

I. Can everyone in the United States vote?

**Political Parties**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Political parties are groups of people who share political beliefs. The United States is often called a "two party system". There are two political parties that run the government. They are the Democrats and Republicans. There is rarely an official from another party in government. However, there are other parties. All of the presidents of the past 150 years have either been Democrats or Republicans. Many people are registered as a member of a political party. It is very common to vote for all of the officials from one party. This is called straight-ticket voting or straight-party voting.

I. What is a political party?

II. What are the two main political parties?

**Political Parties**

True \_\_\_\_\_ False \_\_\_\_\_

**What are Candidates?**

Candidates are the people running for an elected position. Just like voters, candidates have requirements. These change based on what they are running for. Candidates have a team of people. The team has many jobs. One of the main jobs is to raise money. Many campaigns are expensive. The team also helps keep the candidate on message. They help organize events and people to work for them. Candidates almost always are part of a political party. You might see ads on TV for political candidates.

I. What is a candidate?

**Candidates**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Identify who a candidate is.

**The Campaign**

Candidates will often campaign as election approaches. Campaigning involves making public appearances for support. They try to influence voters. They give speeches about issues on the campaign trail. Presidential candidates travel all over the country to campaign. They also have debates with the other party's candidate. They talk about what they want to change in government. They focus on how they intend to do that. The traveling part of a campaign is called the "campaign trail".

I. What does campaigning involve?

**The Campaign**

True \_\_\_\_\_

**Types of Elections**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

There are many different types of elections. Most of the presidential election. That happens every four years. However, there are smaller elections. There are elections for state governors. These elections often have more than two candidates. The side of the issue with the most votes wins. Most states vote for a governor every four years. The governor is the top official. State senators are voted on every six years. Representatives are voted on every two years.

I. Name two kinds of elections besides the presidential election.

**Election Day**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

For the presidential election, Election Day is the first Tuesday in November. This special election only happens once every four years. Anyone who meets voting requirements and is registered to vote can vote on Election Day. They can vote for the president and other offices. There are other political offices that are voted on for the first time every four years. For example, Congress members are voted on every two years. Counting votes can possibly take a few days to complete. Election Day ends without there being a winner yet. The winning candidate will give a speech when it is over.

I. What is special about the presidential election?

II. Is the winner always decided on Election Day?

III. What happens once the counting is over?

**Election Day**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Have Learned

SAME  DIFFERENT  NOT THE SAME

**Inauguration Day**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Inauguration Day is the day that the president begins their term. The president is sworn into office on this day. It happens every four years on January 20<sup>th</sup>. It can happen on January 21 if the 20<sup>th</sup> is a Sunday. The president is declared in or shortly after Election Day. However, the president's term does not start until January 20<sup>th</sup>. The president gives a speech known as the Inaugural Address. The speech usually covers what they want to do as president. There is a parade. The president

**Inauguration Day**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Have Learned

**Inauguration Day**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

True \_\_\_\_\_ False \_\_\_\_\_

**Passages and printables**

What is the first Tuesday in November?

What is inauguration day?

What does the Inaugural Address cover?

What is the first Monday in February?

Who has a party in the evening to celebrate?

The president gives the Inaugural Address.

Inauguration Day is the first Monday in February.

Inauguration Day is the day the president begins a term.

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# Mock Election

**Registration Card**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Classroom: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please sign and date.  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Card**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Classroom: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Draw a campaign poster for candidate 3.

**Vote for** \_\_\_\_\_  
Slogan: \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Candidates**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Describe each of the candidates.  
Describe each candidate in your classroom election.

Candidate #1
Candidate #2
Candidate #3
Candidate #4

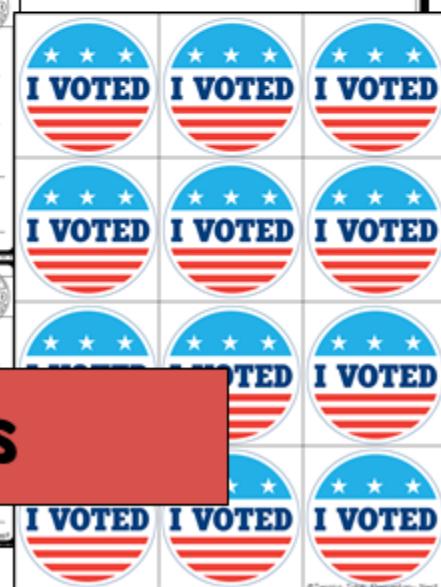
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Draw a campaign poster for candidate 1.  
**Vote for** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Draw a campaign poster for candidate 2.  
**Vote for** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ballot**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Draw a campaign poster for candidate 4.

<input type="checkbox"/>	_____



## Mock Election Materials

# Digital Additions

The practice sheets and passages are now available in Google Slides format.

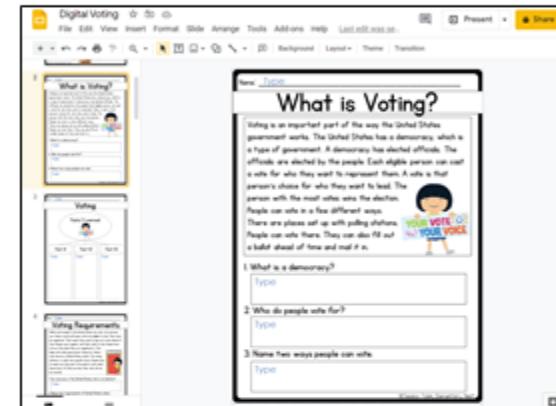
To open the social studies pages, click on the link below after reading these instructions. These links will open Google Slides.

## What you need:

- A Google Classroom account

## What to do:

- Open document using links on this page.
- Click "make a copy". This will be your master copy. Name it whatever you'd like.
- Make another copy to share with your students. Get the shareable link using the 'Share' button in the top right corner.



## Options for sharing:

- Copy the *specific slide* you need and share it with your students.
- Share the *entire presentation* for them to fill out by a certain date or for use when they are reading independently.
- Create a graphic organizer folder for your students to access whichever ones they want/need.