IT S OICIAL

0 minutes

OBJECTIVE

Students send letters to elected officials.

MATERIALS

Paper, envelopes writing implements: pens, pencils

GET READY

- Gather paper, envelopes, pens and/or pencils.
- If your school has e-mail capability in your classroom, a technology classroom or media center, schedule your class there when composing the letters. -mail is a great alternative to paper mail.
- If your PTA has a special budget for the Kids Voting program, you might buy stamps for each student. If not, the students can mail their letters personally.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Say, There are lots of people who work for us in our country: our mayor, our senators, our representatives, our president, etc. It's important that they understand how we feel about the job they are doing as well as what is important to us.
- Ask students to think of something they would like to share with an elected official. Have the mailing addresses e-mail addresses of elected officials available for your students.
- Tell your students to compose a letter to the official and sign it. They should use proper letter format. Tell them to write the address of the person they are contacting on the envelope as well as their return address. Alternatively, make a visit to the technology classroom or the media center if your classroom is not equipped with the Internet. Students can always send messages electronically in addition to paper mail.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why is it important that we share our opinions with our elected officials?
- What are other ways we can contact our elected officials?
- How can we encourage other students to write their elected officials.
- What can we say to people who tell us we are not making a difference?

MORE

rite letters to other prominent persons, such as udges and the state and national secretaries of education.

©2005 Kids Voting USA, Inc. – All rights reserved.