



## SUFFRAGE SEQUENCE CARDS

(20-25 minutes)

### OBJECTIVE

Students order and examine the history of voting rights to gain a better understanding of the right to vote.

### MATERIALS

*U.S. Suffrage Timeline Cards* handout; *U.S. Suffrage Timeline Cards with Dates* handout

### GET READY

- ✓ Copy and cut a set of *U.S. Suffrage Timeline Cards* for each group of three to five students.
- ✓ Copy a *U.S. Suffrage Timeline Cards with Dates* handout sheet for each group.
- ✓ See “The Right to Vote” in the Appendix.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Have your students divide into groups of three to five.
- ✓ Give each group a set of suffrage sequence cards.
- ✓ Explain to the groups that they need to put the cards in chronological order. Allow an adequate amount of time for the groups to order the cards.
- ✓ When it seems like all, or most, of the groups have finished, call the game and provide each group with an answer key handout.
- ✓ Go over the correct sequencing as a class.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ *Do you think we will ever need to add new cards to this game? If yes, what makes you think so?*
- ★ *Who still cannot vote? Should they be able to vote? Why or why not?*
- ★ *Why do people want the right to vote?*
- ★ *Why did it take so long for some groups to gain the right to vote?*
- ★ *Do you know what each group did to gain the right to vote? How could you find out?*

### MORE!

Assign students to discover and report what various populations did to gain the right to vote.

### VOTE QUOTE

“Vote as an individual; lemmings end up falling off cliffs.” –Pierre S. du Pont



## SUFFRAGE SEQUENCE CARDS

### U.S. SUFFRAGE TIMELINE CARDS

The Declaration of Independence is signed. The right to vote is based on property ownership. Suffrage is primarily for white male Protestants over the age of 21.	The 24th Amendment passes, outlawing the poll tax.	With the Civil War over, lawmakers enact the 14th Amendment, granting citizenship to African-Americans and permitting them to vote. But state officials still attempt to deny them the right to vote.
The Constitution is drafted. States are given the power to regulate their own suffrage laws and favor white male landowners.	Further amendments to the Voting Rights Act require that many voting materials be printed in the languages of various minority groups.	The 15th Amendment is ratified, providing the legal rights of African-Americans to vote and prohibiting state and local governments from denying that right.
The Electoral College elects George Washington president. Only 6 percent of the entire population is involved in the election.	The Voting Rights Act passes after Martin Luther King, Jr. leads 25,000 people on a march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, to dramatize the need for more voting rights.	Wyoming becomes a state and is the first state to provide suffrage for women in its Constitution.
Vermont declares that all adult white males, regardless of property ownership or religion, can vote.	The 26th Amendment lowers the voting age from 21 to 18.	The Civil Rights Act passes, allowing punishment for interference with, or disruption of, protection for African-American voters.
Rhode Island does not follow the lead of Vermont and other states with reformed voting rights. A rebellion begins and forces Rhode Island to adopt a new Constitution. This allows broader voting rights.	Before the signing of the Constitution, many communities vote in ways similar to their European home countries.	The 19th Amendment is ratified, giving women the right to vote.
Because African-Americans and women suffer discrimination at the polls, Elizabeth Cady Stanton sets forth resolutions for women's suffrage at the first convention of women's rights advocates. They pass.	A Civil Rights Act defines citizenship and prohibits discrimination based on race. The Republican Congress overrides the veto of President Andrew Jackson, hoping to lure the vote of former slaves.	Poll taxes, grandfather clauses and literacy tests are introduced in many Southern states. They are designed to restrict the ability of African-Americans to register and vote.
Georgia lowers its voting age from 21 to 18 in state and local elections.	The National American Woman Suffrage Association is founded, with Susan B. Anthony as president.	Miguel Trujillo, a Native American and former Marine, wins a suit against New Mexico for not allowing him to vote. New Mexico and Arizona are required to give the vote to all Native Americans.
The Voting Rights Act is amended to lower the voting age to 18 and ban the use of literacy tests.		



## U.S. SUFFRAGE TIMELINE CARDS WITH DATES

1776 – The Declaration of Independence is signed. The right to vote is based on property ownership. Suffrage is primarily for white male Protestants over the age of 21.	1964 – The 24th Amendment passes, outlawing the poll tax.	1868 – With the Civil War over, lawmakers enact the 14th Amendment, granting citizenship to African-Americans and permitting them to vote. But state officials still attempt to deny them the right to vote.
1787 – The Constitution is drafted. States are given the power to regulate their own suffrage laws and favor white male landowners.	1975 – Further amendments to the Voting Rights Act require that many voting materials be printed in the languages of various minority groups.	1870 – The 15th Amendment is ratified, providing the legal rights of African-Americans to vote and prohibiting state and local governments from denying that right.
1789 – George Washington is elected president by the Electoral College. Only 6 percent of the entire population is involved in the election.	1965 – The Voting Rights Act passes after Martin Luther King, Jr. leads 25,000 people on a march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, to dramatize the need for more voting rights.	1890 – Wyoming becomes a state and is the first state to provide suffrage for women in its Constitution.
1791 – Vermont declares that all adult white males, regardless of property ownership or religion, can vote.	1971 – The 26th Amendment lowers the voting age from 21 to 18.	1957 – The Civil Rights Act passes, allowing punishment for interference with, or disruption of, protection for African-American voters.
1842 – Rhode Island does not follow the lead of Vermont and other states with reformed voting rights. A rebellion begins and forces Rhode Island to adopt a new Constitution. This allows broader voting rights.	Before 1776 – Before the signing of the Constitution, many communities vote in ways similar to their European home countries.	1920 – The 19th Amendment is ratified, giving women the right to vote.
1848 – Because African-Americans and women suffer discrimination at the polls, Elizabeth Cady Stanton sets forth resolutions for women's suffrage at the first convention of women's rights advocates. They pass.	1865 – A Civil Rights Act defines citizenship and prohibits discrimination based on race. The Republican Congress overrides the veto of President Andrew Jackson, hoping to lure the vote of former slaves.	1876 – Poll taxes, grandfather clauses and literacy tests are introduced in many Southern states. They are designed to restrict the ability of African-Americans to register and vote.
1943 – Georgia lowers its voting age from 21 to 18 in state and local elections.	1869 – The National American Woman Suffrage Association is founded, with Susan B. Anthony as president.	1947 – Miguel Trujillo, a Native American and former Marine, wins a suit against New Mexico for not allowing him to vote. New Mexico and Arizona are required to give the vote to all Native Americans.
1970 – The Voting Rights Act is amended to lower the voting age to 18 and ban the use of literacy tests.		