



OBJECTIVE:

This short easy classroom activity will prepare students to vote by demystifying the voting process and helping them register to vote.

TIME REQUIRED:

The activity can be completed in as little as 10 minutes depending on how much time you leave for discussion.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- Internet access
- Computer and projector
- Internet access for students through computers or mobile devices (preferable but not required)
- Printed handout for each student.

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW:

Voting in Saskatchewan is easier than many first time voters think and this activity demonstrates how easy it is.

The activity includes an engaging slide presentation that can be run directly from Elections Saskatchewan’s website or downloaded and run either as a Powerpoint or Google Slides presentation.

The presentation covers who is eligible to vote, who they are electing, the responsibilities of the Legislative Assembly, how to vote, what ID is required to vote, and options for working for Elections Saskatchewan. It concludes by providing students **born before October 28th, 2006** an opportunity to register to vote on Elections Saskatchewan easy to use website.

Each slide includes speaker notes (which are also included in this printable teacher guide).

SLIDE 1

Text:

How long did it take to vote in the last provincial election?

Fade Out

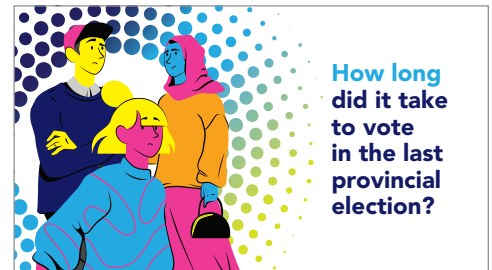
Fade In

Voting - It is easier than you think

Notes for teacher:

Ask students to guess how long it took most people to vote in the last provincial election once they arrived at the polling location. Have students write down their answers on a piece of paper. Ask students their guesses and note the range of responses.

Do NOT tell students how long it took to vote. Explain that you will be telling them later.



SLIDE 2

Text:

You can vote if you

- Are 18 years old
- Are a Canadian Citizen, and
- Lived in Saskatchewan for at least 6 months

NOTE: Text is animated so each new criteria appears on a click

Notes for teacher:

After reviewing slide, ask students who among them will be eligible to vote in the next provincial election scheduled for October 28th, 2024.

Congratulate them on being eligible to vote.



SLIDE 3

Text:

Who do you vote for?

Notes for teacher:

Explain that in a provincial election, you elect a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) who represents you and makes decisions on behalf of your community.

Ask who is your local MLA?

Find your local MLA here: <https://www.elections.sk.ca/voters/findmyconstituency/>

Explain that everyone's vote is private. Once you have marked your ballot, you don't show it to anyone else.



SLIDE 4

Text:

No matter what you care about, the Legislative Assembly has a role to play.

Notes for teacher:

Distribute student handout and direct students to put a check next to all the issues that matter to them and circle the issue that matters most.

- Cost of College and University
- Transportation
- Workplace safety
- Environment
- Taxes
- Minimum wage
- Public safety
- Health care
- Sports and culture
- Roads and transportation
- Drivers license requirements
- Other _____

As time allows, review students' answers to identify the top issues that matter most to students. Write their responses on the board or flip chart paper.



SLIDE 5

Text:

Which takes less time?

Voting or

1. Choosing what show to watch
2. One period of a hockey game
3. Doing the dishes
4. Getting your haircut
5. Deciding the perfect outfit to wear on night out

Voting is easier than you think!



SLIDE 5 (continued)

Notes for teacher:

After showing students each activity, ask students by a show of hands if they think it takes more or less time than voting. Then click to the answer and click to the next activity.

NOTE: All the activities take more time than voting.

After you have gone through the activities, tell students that in the last provincial election 76% of voters reported that it took less than 10 minutes to vote and that 94% of voters were satisfied with how long it took to vote.

Compare students' guesses from the first slide to how long it actually took people to vote. Remind students that the last election was held during the pandemic and it still was easy to vote.



SLIDE 6

Text:

There are different ways to vote

Animated sequence with words and images associated with the activity

- In person
- By Mail
- Special Voting Opportunities for people in hospitals, care homes, etc.

Notes for teacher:

Explain that it is possible to vote in person before election day and on election day, although the votes are not reported until after the polls close on election day.

You can also request that Elections Saskatchewan send you a ballot to vote by mail

There are even special voting opportunities for people who may not be able to vote in person or complete a vote by mail request.



SLIDE 7

Text:

What ID do you need to vote?

A valid drivers license or government issued ID with picture and current address (image of drivers license with a check mark next to it)

Or

Two forms of ID - one of which shows your current address

One form of ID can be voter information card from Elections Saskatchewan

Notes for teacher:

Explain that you need to prove your identity and current address where you will be voting. If you have a driver's license that is all you need.

If not, there are still lots of ways to do it. See list [here](#).

Tell students that if they don't have any ID with their current address (for example if they recently moved), they can go with someone who is eligible to vote and knows them to attest to their eligibility.

Finally, explain that, unlike getting a driver's license, there are no tests, applications or fees to vote.



SLIDE 8

Text:

Work for Elections Saskatchewan
Get Paid, Support Democracy, Gain Valuable Experience

Notes for teacher:

Explain that Elections Saskatchewan hires 11,000 workers to help administer the election. These are well paying jobs and you only need to be 16 years old to be eligible to apply. The experience looks great on a resume and applications for scholarships for college and university.

Point to the link to Elections Saskatchewan on the handout where students can find more information about how to apply.



SLIDE 9

Text:

Register to Vote

Born **before October 28th, 2006** you are eligible to register now and vote in the next election

Notes for teacher

Directs students **before October 28th, 2006** to register by scanning QR code on their handout or using the supplied internet address. Remind students that by registering they will get a voter information card that can be used as one form of ID to prove address. The voter information card tells them when and where to vote and can be used as one form of identification to prove address.

If they don't have internet access during the class, direct them to take home the handout and access the site at home.



SLIDE 10

Text:

You are more powerful when you do it together

Encourage your friends and family to check their registration by following the link.

Notes for teacher

Encourage students to take handout with QR code and ask family or friends to see if they are registered at their current address



SLIDE 11

Text:

October 28, 2024

the scheduled date for the next general provincial election

Notes for teacher

Close by reminding students that voting is easy.

