



Mock Elections

Plan a lesson for your class or center that teaches your students and, therefore, your families about the power of voting through a mock election!

The election should be about something that the children care about like “*What should our snack be?*”, “*What time should we have naptime?*”, “*What should our class mascot be?*”, etc. The election topic should be something that can actually change or implement so that students see the impact of their vote and in turn, tell their families.

A mock election can be done any time, ideally in the month leading up to an election. If you are able to hold it in conjunction with other events that mirror what their parents are doing, for example: National Voter Registration Day, registration deadline, early voting starts, or Election Day, that’s even better.

Action Steps:

- Teacher: Select a topic and two options for the mock election and set a date for the election (3 weeks in advance)
- Students: Create signs in support of the two options in the weeks leading up to the election.
- Teacher: Provide templates for the students, depending on the age.
- Students: Create signs to advertise the Election Day! (2 weeks in advance)
- Students: Register to vote. The voter registration card can be the student’s name, teacher’s name, and favorite color. (1 week in advance)
- Teacher: Create ballots and review the ballots with the students. Ballots should have pictures so that all students can understand the two options and be anonymous.
- Teacher: On Election Day: Create a voting area with dividers that mimic an actual polling site. Use this as an activity to work on counting and have students help count votes and add up the totals.
- Teacher and Parents: Share the election results and activities with IAFC on social media and with families. Make sure that the change the students voted on is implemented.