

# Election Time!



You may want to use the Gallopade Elections Kit during a United States presidential election. Students will get their chance to vote for the candidate of their choice, and then compare class results with the results from their state and the nation! What an introduction to the democratic process!

You Can Hold a Mock Election!

Do you have some aspiring politicians in your class? Let them take a stab at running for office in a mock election.

## Activity: Vote For Me!

### Description:

Students will hold a mock election.

### Objective:

Elect a mock president (or other leader), and teach students about the election process.

### Materials:

You will need poster board and markers to make campaign posters and signs, and the downloadable campaign button reproducible page from Gallopade Election Central at [www.electionsforkids.com](http://www.electionsforkids.com) or at [www.gallopade.com](http://www.gallopade.com).

Buttons!



Stickers!



Lots of FUN!



# What to Do:

1. Announce that you are going to hold a mock election. Ask students who wants to run for president. You decide how you want to choose two nominees. (You might want to choose the most deserving students, or you might just want to pull names out of a hat!)
2. Allow the two nominees to choose two people each to be on their campaign staff. After all, every candidate needs someone to help with all the details!
3. Ask nominees and their helpers to make some campaign posters to post around the classroom. You may want to keep it simple—like asking candidates to come up with a campaign slogan or three words that describe them. Direct the candidates to use their theme on their posters.
4. Ask students to make campaign buttons—one for each candidate. They can wear one if they have chosen a candidate to back, or they can wear both of them if they want to keep their choice a secret!
5. There are lots of fun events in presidential campaigns. You might want to have a “fundraiser” for each candidate—like a lunch with pizza or a snack time with goodies!
6. Ask each candidate to make a short statement about why they are best for the job. It doesn’t have to be a speech, but they need to get the word out about themselves!
7. Use the ballots, ballot box, and pencils provided in the Gallopade Election Kit on Election Day. Make sure students vote quietly and carefully. Pass out the “I Voted!” stickers included in the elections kit. Announce the results! Then, have a big post-election party!

