

The H.O.T. Spot

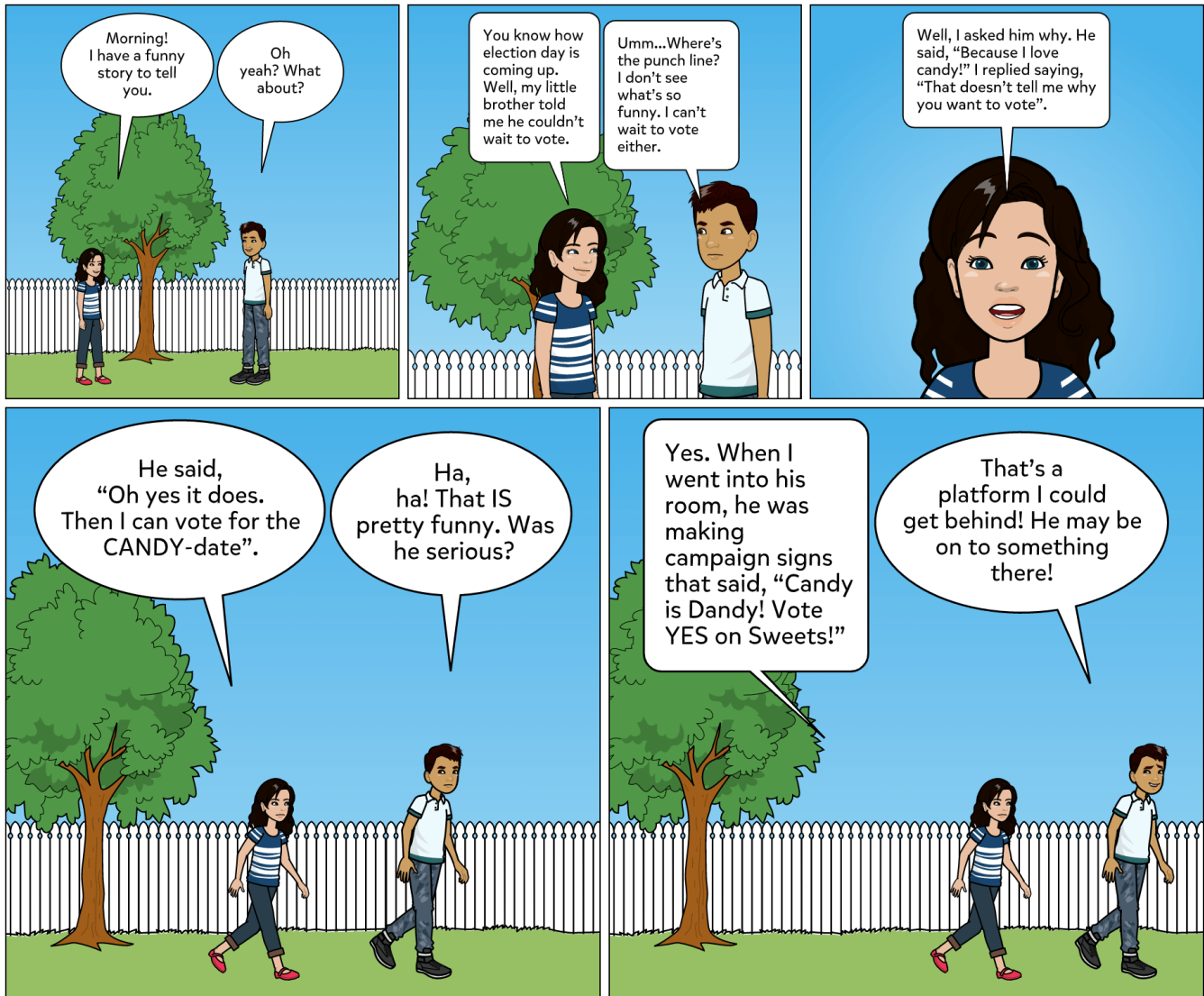
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A WEEKLY PUBLICATION FOR CURIOUS KIDS

Issue #15 (October 21, 2020)

CAUTION: Participation may lead to a lack of boredom and a tired brain!

FEATURED TOPIC THIS WEEK:
Democracy Defined





Democracy Defined

Did You Know?

Merriam Webster defines a *democracy* as ‘government by the people’. The word itself comes from the Greek words *demos* (meaning ‘common people’) and *kratos* (meaning ‘strength’). The United States of America’s form of government is a *democratic republic*. This can best be explained as a system where some decisions are made by the people and others are made by elected leaders. Click the word ‘link’ at the end of this sentence to view a map of the world color-coded by system of government- [LINK](#)

Help Wanted

A person who runs for political office is called a *politician*.

Requirements

- Research the requirements for the political office you would like to become a candidate
- Volunteer for an organization or campaign
- (*Not required, but recommended*) Earn a college degree, possibly in political science

Necessary Skills

- Writing and research skills
- Public speaking and presentation skills
- Ability to stay calm under pressure

Daily Tasks

- Meet with constituents, the press, staff members
- Draft policies and present at meetings

Bio-Profile



Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906) is one of the most famous advocates for voting rights in the United States. She did not understand why women were not allowed to vote and decided to do it anyway. This led to her arrest in 1872. She fought for equality her entire life. Sadly, women did not earn the right to vote until 1920, after she had already passed away.

Mystery Picture of the Week

Can you name the building pictured below?
After doing your research, turn your paper upside down to check your answer.



This building is the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Inside this building, the Senate and House of Representatives debate issues, laws, and budgets on behalf of the American people. To tour the capitol building, click the word ‘link’ here- [LINK](#)

Virtual Field Trip

Take a trip through time to learn about democracy:

www.viewpure.com/u6jgWxkbR7A?start=0&end=0

Would You Rather

Would you rather run for President of the United States or be nominated to be a Justice of the Supreme Court?



What do you think the featured topic should be next week? Email your teacher with your thoughts.

Project-Based Bonanza

Choose one or more of the projects below to complete this week.

CHOICE A

Pretend you are running for a political office. Create your own campaign logo, slogan, and/or yard sign. Make sure it is eye catching and creative.



CHOICE B

When the United States won independence from Great Britain in 1776, King George was not very happy. Imagine a conversation between him and Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, or Benjamin Franklin. What might that have sounded like?



CHOICE C

There are many other forms of government in addition to democracy. Take a few minutes to research those listed below. Create a visual comparing and contrasting each:

- Communism
- Autocracy
- Monarchy
- Oligarchy
- Theocracy

Story Starters

Read and respond to the prompt below!

Imagine you have decided to run for political office. Your first opportunity to speak to the public is next week. Draft a short speech outlining the issues you care about and the ideas you have for solving them.



Digging Into Depth and Complexity

Based on what you have learned from this H.O.T. Spot about democracy, answer the following questions using the depth and complexity icons.



Summarize the BIG IDEAS of 'democracy'.



What UNANSWERED QUESTIONS do you still have about democracy?



How has the right to vote CHANGED OVER TIME in the United States?



Do you think kids should have the right to vote? Compare your answer to the PERSPECTIVE of a friend or a parent.

Brain Teaser of the Week

Can you solve this rebus puzzle?

ON ELECTION DAY, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL ELIGIBLE VOTERS _____?

