

GRADE: 3-5 (Lesson 4)

Big Idea: Civic and Political Participation

Standard: SS.3.C.2, SS.4.C.2, SS.5.C.2

Candidate Comparison

Objectives:

1. Students will compare 2 candidates running for the same public office using a Venn diagram.

Materials and Resources needed:

1. Pencil
2. "Candidate Comparison" activity (Venn diagram)
3. Newspapers/ candidate flyers/ video/ Internet

Suggested Teaching Time: (30 minutes)

1. (5 Minutes) Remind students that informed voters know who is running for public office.
2. (5 Minutes) Pass out "Candidate Comparison" activity.
3. (10 minutes) Log on to www.leonvotes.org to show the students who is running for which public offices.
4. (10 minutes) Student activity.

Next Generation Benchmarks

1. SS.3.C.2.1 – Identify group and individual actions of citizens that demonstrate civility, cooperation, volunteerism, and other civic virtues.
2. SS.4.C.2.1 –Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens.
3. SS.4.C.2.2 –Identify ways citizens work together to influence government and help solve community and state problems.
4. SS.4.C.2.3 –Explain the importance of public service, voting, and volunteerism.
5. SS.5.C.2.4 –Evaluate the importance of civic responsibilities in American democracy.
6. SS.5.C.2.5 –Identify ways good citizens go beyond basic civic and political responsibilities to improve government and society.



Optional Lesson Enhancement Resources:

<u>Websites</u>	<u>Web Address</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Leon County Supervisor of Elections	www.leonvotes.org	Information on Leon County Elections
2. Florida Division of Elections	http://election.dos.state.fl.us/voting/voting-info.shtml	Information on Florida Elections

Activity

1. Review the list of candidates from the “Who is Running for Public Office?” activity.
2. Discuss with the students their “Look Who’s Running for Public Office” worksheets.
3. Tell the students that informed voters examine both sides of the issues.
4. Ask students to recall “Peggy’s Dilemma”. Remind the students about the difficulty of deciding on whom to vote for in an election.
5. As a class, pick one of the political races (a public office that is up for election) and model the “Candidate Comparison” activity by comparing 2 of the candidates (on the board, projector, or Smartboard).
6. After completing the “Candidate Comparison” activity with the class, pass out the “Candidate Comparison” activity to the students (Venn diagram).
7. Allow the students the opportunity to compare the candidates and their platforms using the Venn diagram in groups or pairs. Possible resources:
 - a. Candidate flyers
 - b. Newspapers
 - c. Internet
 - d. Videos
8. Have students share their “Candidate Comparison” activity answers with the class.

NAME _____

DATE _____

CANDIDATE COMPARISON

CANDIDATE 1 _____

CANDIDATE 2 _____

Commonalities

