

## GRADE: 3-5 (Lesson 5)

**Big Idea:** Civic and Political Participation

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

# Build Your Platform

### Objectives:

1. The student will use issues to build a platform for Class President.

### Materials and Resources needed:

1. Pencil
2. "My Platform" Worksheet

### Suggested Teaching Time: (40 minutes)

1. (10 Minutes) Discussion of why people run for public office.
2. (5 Minutes) Pass out the "My Platform" worksheet.
3. (15 minutes) Student activity.
4. (10 minutes) Student sharing.

### 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.



## Activity

1. Ask the students why they think people want to hold public office and therefore run for election.
2. Guide the discussion towards:
  - a. Making changes
  - b. Improving government and society
  - c. Solving problems for the community
3. On the board have students brainstorm issues that they feel they face at school.
4. Ask the students how they think that these issues could be solved.
5. Inform the students that they are now candidates for Class President. As candidates they need to have platforms (beliefs, opinions, and position on the issues). Pass out a “My Platform” activity sheet to each student.
6. Tell the students that they will build their political platform as part of the activity.
  - a. Each student will need to focus on 3 issues.
  - b. Remind students that candidates use are trying to persuade people to vote for them in an election.
7. Allow students an opportunity to share their platform with the class.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

# My Platform

My issues:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Why I think they are important:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What I would do to solve these issues:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

On a separate piece of paper, write to explain why someone should vote for you based on the issues you described in your platform.

