

# Brazos Valley African American Museum



**Curriculum Learning Trunk  
Lesson Plans for Elementary School- 3rd Grade**

**November Voting  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

**November Voting: Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Lesson Plan**  
**BVAAM**  
**Curriculum Learning Trunk - Lesson Plan**

**OBJECTIVE:** By the end of the lesson, using the “Two Ballots” voting worksheet, third-grade students will be able to give two examples of decisions made by voting, at a 90 percent success rate.

**TEKS:**

**Knowledge and Skills**  
**SS 3.12 Citizenship:** The student understands the impact of individual and group decisions on communities in a constitutional republic. The student is expected to:

**3.12 A:** Give examples of community changes that result from individual or group decisions

**ELAR 3.12 Knowledge and Skill Statement:** Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about the author’s purpose in cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:

**3.12 A:** Identify the topic and locate the author’s stated purposes in writing the text.

**BACKGROUND INFO:** The right to vote is a constitutional right granted by Article 1 of the Constitution, yet this right wasn’t extended to everyone when it was first established. The 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment gave African-American males to vote. The 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment gave women the right to vote. The 24<sup>th</sup> Amendment eliminated the poll tax, and the 26<sup>th</sup> Amendment lowered the voting age to 18. Barbara Jordan served as the first African-American representative of Texas. Barack Obama served as the first African-American President. Maya Angelou was a civil rights activist that was famous for her memoir, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. Amelia Boynton was a civil rights activist and was the first African-American woman to run for congress. Pinckney Pinchback served as a representative and was a civil rights activist. Patricia Harris was the first African-American to serve a cabinet position. Harold Washington was the first African-American mayor. John Langston was the first African-American to be elected into public office. Shirley Chisholm was the first African-American congresswoman.

<https://www.biography.com/people/groups/african-american-firsts-government-politics>

<http://diversity.utexas.edu/barbarajordanstatue/history-of-barbara-jordan/>

<https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>

**TIME ESTIMATION:** 40- 45 minutes

<b>MATERIALS NEEDED:</b>	<p>“Two Ballots” worksheet  ballot box  “One Vote, Two Votes, I Vote, You Vote.”</p>
<b>ENGAGE:</b>	<p>Before starting the lesson, gauge the students’ understanding of what voting does. Ask the students in the classroom questions such as: What is voting? What types of decisions can be made from voting? Does voting affect you?</p>
<b>EXPLORE:</b>	<p><b>Step 1:</b> <i>Focus:</i> Answer the questions asked by the teacher.</p> <p><b>Step 2:</b> <i>Engage:</i> Read “One Vote, Two Vote, I Vote, You Vote” and complete “Two Ballots” activity.</p> <p><b>Step 3:</b> <i>Discuss:</i> With a partner, discuss the reading and the activity, what you think voting is and how voting affects your community.</p>
<b>EXPLAIN:</b>	<p>Engage the class by asking the students to define voting, what decisions can be made from voting, and if voting affects them.  Define voting as a way a group of people can make a decision, and that voting allows people to have a say.  Explain that voting is important because it allows us to be equal, voting allows our voices to be heard, and most importantly, our voting can affect our life. Read “One Vote, Two Vote...” and complete the “Two Ballots” activity. For “Two Ballots” allow the students to vote two times, one without knowledge, the second time with.  End the lesson with a class discussion of the reading activity, and the role voting plays on society.</p>
<b>ELABORATE:</b>	<p>To extend the lesson, explain to the students that not everyone has always had the right to vote. Stress that the process for everyone to get to vote was a very long process. The teacher can introduce the names of the influential African-Americans and the amendments that extended the right to vote to women and people of African descent. Allow students to complete the “Influential African-American Politician Word Scramble.”</p>
<b>EVALUATE:</b>	<p>Assess the students’ knowledge over the lesson through a class wide discussion. In this discussion, ask the students to: define voting, explain the importance of voting, and how voting affects them. End the evaluation by asking each student to write two examples of decisions that are made through voting on a sheet of paper and turn it in.</p> <p><a href="http://pbskids.org/zoom/fromyou/elections/elections101.html">http://pbskids.org/zoom/fromyou/elections/elections101.html</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.ritenour.k12.mo.us/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=1799&amp;dataid=1638&amp;FileName=KVUSA-3-5Activities.pdf">https://www.ritenour.k12.mo.us/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=1799&amp;dataid=1638&amp;FileName=KVUSA-3-5Activities.pdf</a>  (page 14 and 15)</p> <p><a href="https://study.com/academy/lesson/how-voting-works-lesson-for-kids.html">https://study.com/academy/lesson/how-voting-works-lesson-for-kids.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.ducksters.com/history/us_government_voting.php">http://www.ducksters.com/history/us_government_voting.php</a></p>

**ACCOMODATIONS:**

For students who have behavioral issues, they can assist the teacher by passing out the activities to their classmates. For students who learn at a slower pace, students can complete the activities in pairs instead of individually. For students who are ESL, discussions can also be class wide discussions rather than with partners. For students with learning disabilities, technology can be implemented so they can be fully involved.

Name:

Date:

### Influential African-American Politician Word Scramble

Descramble the influential African-American politicians with the help of a word bank. To be completed in class, unless otherwise, noted.

1. rbaraba odjanr \_\_\_\_\_
2. ameial ytnboon \_\_\_\_\_
3. cntnacose mloety \_\_\_\_\_
4. rshelyi isholmch \_\_\_\_\_
5. roadhl gniswtnthoa \_\_\_\_\_
6. aamy aoelngu \_\_\_\_\_
7. kraacb bmaao \_\_\_\_\_
8. nojh agosnltn \_\_\_\_\_
9. iiaacprt brrtoes irshar \_\_\_\_\_
10. iyekcnpn nbhackcpi \_\_\_\_\_

#### WORD BANK:

- |                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Barbara Jordan     | John Langston           |
| Barack Obama       | Patricia Roberts Harris |
| Constance Motley   | Harold Washington       |
| Amelia Boynton     | Maya Angelou            |
| Pinckney Pinchback | Shirley Chisholm        |

#### KEY TO INFLUENTIAL AFRICAN-AMERICAN POLITICIAN WORD SCRAMBLE

1. Barbara Jordan
2. Amelia Boynton
3. Constance Motley
4. Shirley Chisholm
5. Harold Washington
6. Maya Angelou
7. Barack Obama
8. John Langston
9. Patricia Roberts Harris
10. Pinckney Pinchback