

Midterm Election Civics Pack

Four nonpartisan activities for election season. Students research real offices and check real claims. They never have to share who they or their families support.

THIS PACK INCLUDES

- 1 Know your ballot: office research organizer
- 2 Political ad and claim checker
- 3 Discussion norms for election week
- 4 Exit ticket and reflection

QUICK BACKGROUND FOR STUDENTS

- Midterm elections happen halfway through a president's four-year term.
- Every seat in the U.S. House of Representatives is on the ballot every two years.
- About one-third of U.S. Senate seats are on the ballot in each federal election.
- Many states and towns also elect governors, legislators, judges, school boards, and ballot measures.
- Your state or county election office lists exactly what is on your local ballot.

Keep it nonpartisan

Students choose which race to research, use at least two sources, and present what candidates say about themselves without ranking them. Students are never asked how they or their families vote. The skill is research and evidence, not persuasion.

Designed for grades 6-12. Works for any election year and any state. Print, adapt, and use it without an email gate.

Know Your Ballot

Pick one office on your local ballot. Research the job first, then the people running for it.

Name _____ Class period _____

Office I chose

What does this person actually do? (powers and responsibilities)

Term length and how often this office is elected

	Candidate A	Candidate B
Name and party (if listed)		
Top issue they name		
What they say they will do		
Source 1 (where you found it)		
Source 2		

What is one question you would ask both candidates?

Political Ad and Claim Checker

Use this for a TV ad, mailer, social post, or debate clip. Check the claim, not the candidate.

Name _____ Class period _____

Question	What I found
Where did I see it?	
Who paid for it or posted it?	
What is the exact claim?	
What evidence does the ad give?	
What do two other sources say?	
What is left out?	

MY VERDICT (CIRCLE ONE)

Supported

Partly supported

Not supported

Can't tell yet

Why? Use evidence.

Election Week Norms and Exit Ticket

Agree on these before any election discussion. Post them where everyone can see.

OUR DISCUSSION NORMS

- ☐ Talk about ideas and evidence, not people's families or identities.
- ☐ No one has to share who they support, and no one asks.
- ☐ Disagree with a claim by giving a better source.
- ☐ Assume classmates are acting in good faith unless they show otherwise.
- ☐ If a conversation gets heated, we pause and return to the evidence.

EXIT TICKET

Name _____ Class period _____

One thing I learned about how elections work:

One claim I checked and what I found:

One question I still have:

Need the whole lesson, not just the form?

Everything in this pack is free and stays free. When you need a ready-to-teach lesson, a sub plan you can leave tonight, or a bigger toolkit, it lives in Clay Shumate's TeachersPayTeachers store.

PAIRS WITH THIS PACK

Current Events and Media Literacy Bundle

21 resources that work with any article, grades 6-12.

[View on TPT >](#)

PAIRS WITH THIS PACK

Social Studies Teacher Toolkit Bundle

World history and civics resources for grades 6-12.

[View on TPT >](#)

BEST VALUE

The Teacher Emergency Kit: ULTIMATE Bundle

64 resources for grades 6-12: sub plans, behavior tools, routines, and more in one download.

[View on TPT >](#)

FOR THE NEXT SICK DAY

Strange But True Sub Plans Mega Bundle

18 sets, 90 no-prep lessons students actually read. Leave it and take the day.

[View on TPT >](#)

Shop Teacher Emergency Toolkit on TPT

teacherspayteachers.com/store/teacher-emergency-toolkit

Want more free packs like this one?

The full library of free, no-email printables for grades 6-12 is at elevatethenorm.com/resources. New seasonal packs go up every few weeks.

Paid products are from the author's own store. Buying one supports the free resources on ElevateTheNorm.com.