

CONTENT STANDARD 7: POLITICAL SYSTEMS

Students will explain that political systems emanate from the need of humans for order, leading to compromise and the establishment of authority.

Performance Standard 1: Define power and authority and how they evolve into government.

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will:

- define the terms power and authority
- identify situations in which people act because someone is exercising power
- explain the difference between authority and power without authority
- identify some common problems that might arise from a lack of effective authority
- identify some common uses of authority in society

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- read and discuss Orb and Effy Learn About Authority, chapter 1
- complete activity book lesson 1
- complete activities on page 15 of activity book

GRADE 3

Grade Level Statement

The grade three students will:

- define the terms power and authority
- identify situations in which people act because someone is exercising power
- explain the difference between authority and power without authority
- explain why it is important to make distinctions between the exercise of authority and power without authority
- identify sources of authority
- explain why it is important to know the source of someone's authority
- identify a number of important uses of authority

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- read and discuss Authority: Foundations of Democracy, chapters 1-3
- complete suggested activities and worksheets

Content Standard 7: Political Systems (Cont'd)

Performance Standard 2: Describe the need for a limited government so that people can be treated fairly. (See 7.5)

Performance Standard 3: Define and describe government in terms of people and groups who apply and enforce rules and laws. (*Coordinate this standard with 11.2*)

GRADE 1

Grade Level Statement

The grade one students will:

- demonstrate knowledge of the principal and teacher as part of the government of the school

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- create a list of the rules and laws that the teacher and the principal enforce
- use the vocabulary terms: government, rules, laws

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will:

- demonstrate knowledge of the president as part of the government of our nation

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- identify the president as the leader of our nation
- create a list of rules that the president enforces
- (see standard “laws”)
- listen to the book If I were President
- use the vocabulary terms: government, rules, laws, enforce

GRADE 3

Grade Level Statement

The grade three students will:

- demonstrate knowledge of the First Selectman, etc. as part of the government of our town

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- create a list of the rules and laws that the First Selectman, etc. enforce
- use the vocabulary terms: government, rules, laws, enforce

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement

The grade four students will:

- demonstrate knowledge of the Governor and legislature as part of the government of our state

Learning Activities to accomplish this objective

- create a list of the rules and laws that Governor and the Legislature enforce
- use the vocabulary terms: government, rules, laws, enforce

Performance Standard 4: Identify protection of individual rights and promotion of the common good.

KINDERGARTEN

Grade Level Statement

The kindergarten students will:

- demonstrate knowledge of protection of individual rights

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- read and discuss Goldilocks and the Three Bears in terms of invasion of privacy

GRADE 1

Grade Level Statement

The grade one students will:

- demonstrate knowledge of protection of individual rights

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- identify situations in which people do and do not have privacy (desk, bathroom, backpack)
- use the vocabulary term: privacy
- role play situations involving privacy

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will:

- demonstrate knowledge of protection of individual rights

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- identify situations in which people do and do not have privacy (private space/boundaries, phone calls, bedroom)
- use the vocabulary term: privacy
- role play situations involving privacy

GRADE 3

Grade Level Statement

The grade three students will:

- demonstrate knowledge of protection of individual rights (privacy) as they relate to government

Content Standard 7: Political Systems (Cont'd)
Performance Standard 4 (Cont'd)

Grade 3 (Cont'd)

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- refer to standard 5.3 (Constitution)
- identify situations in which people do and do not have privacy (private information: family issues)
- use the vocabulary term: privacy

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement

The grade four students will:

- demonstrate knowledge of protection of individual rights (privacy) as they relate to government (racial profiling, library records)

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- read “September 11, 2001 Cornerstones of Freedom” in terms of privacy issues
- view and discuss video “Remembering September 11” in terms of privacy issues

Performance Standard 5: Identify what governments can and cannot do.

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will:

- explain why it is important to use care when selecting people to fill positions of authority
- identify responsibilities in a position of authority and the qualifications a person should possess to do the job well
- evaluate candidates for the position of authority and decide who would be the best person for the job
- identify what leaders cannot do

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- read and discuss Orb and Effy Learn About Authority, chapter 3
- interview the school Principal
- questions to ask:
 - What are your powers?
 - What are things you cannot do?
- write about what kind of person is needed to be Principal
- discuss the powers a Police Officer has
- compare what a Police Officer's powers are to the Principal's powers
- compare what a Principal cannot do with what a Police Officer cannot do

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement

The grade four students will:

- (see 7.6)

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- (see 7.6)

Performance Standard 6: Explain that it is important to limit government so that individual rights can be protected.

GRADE 2

Grade Level Statement

The grade two students will:

- identify some benefits and costs of using authority
- apply the ideas of benefits and costs to decide whether to use authority in a certain situation
- use the idea of benefits and costs to defend a position on how issues of authority might be resolved
- explain the need to limit the power given to a person in a position of authority

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- read and discuss Orb and Effy learn about Authority, chapters 4, 5, 6
- complete Activity book lessons 4, 5, 6
- complete activities on pages 45, 48-50, 59

GRADE 4

Grade Level Statement

The grade four students will:

- identify the possible consequences of using authority in a particular situation
- classify those consequences as benefits (advantages) or costs (disadvantages)
- apply the ideas of benefits and costs to decide whether to use authority in a certain situation
- use the idea of benefits and costs to defend a position on how issues of authority might be resolved
- explain the usefulness of considering benefits and costs in making decisions about authority

Learning activities to accomplish this objective

- read and discuss Authority; Foundations of Democracy, chapters 9-11
- complete suggested activities pg 66 #1, pg79
- complete group activity pg 68, 66 #1, pg 79