

Political Party Research project:

Essential Question: How does the creation of political parties defined the American Government today?

Objective: Through research and analysis student will understand the platforms of current political parties and design a political party of their own based on their understanding of the political issues currently facing our country today.

Procedure:

1. Students will be assigned to groups of 4-5 members.
2. Each group will research and summarize current major political issues today. **(DUE 11/30/11)** [Group Issue Research Worksheet](#) (can create a group google doc!)
3. Each group will initially be assigned to research the 5 major political parties in the US today to research. **(Due 12/02/11)** [GROUP Party Platform Comparison Chart](#) (can create a group google doc!)
4. Once the group has researched the current positions of political parties they will begin to formulate as a group their positions on each of the issues. (Which political parties do you agree with on each issue?) **(12/02/11 in class)**
5. The group will fill in a chart that describes their positions on each of the issues. Identify which issue is a **TOP PRIORITY** for your political party and **WHO** your party will appeal to. **(12/2/11 in class)**
6. The group will then create a name for their newly created political party and come up with a symbol that represents their party (the donkey and elephant are taken!)
7. As a group you will create a party pamphlet to hand out to people that may be interested in joining your political party. The pamphlet must include your symbol, your platform, and your top priorities for government. **(12/05/11 in class)**

Grading: (100 points total)

Initial Issue Research (accurate and detailed) - 10 points

Political Party Research (accurate and detailed) - 10 points

Newly created party name and symbol - 10 points

Positions on the issues for your party - 40 points

Design and layout of your pamphlet (includes info on the issues, symbol, and creativity)- 30 points

Additional Resources for information

<http://www.politics1.com/issues.htm>

http://dir.yahoo.com/Government/U_S_Government/Politics/Political_Issues/

http://www.presidentialelection.com/Political_Issues/

<http://www.procon.org/>

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