

A Newsletter for Teachers

HOT Apple PIE

July 2008

Partners In Excellence

FROM YOUR NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

—Sept.—
Apple Slice
One Serving of Learning

The Campaign Trail

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Identify and organize news items about the U.S. election
- Explain types of campaign activities
- Prepare a scrapbook

Procedure:

- Schedule delivery of newspapers or E-edition license access.
- Explain to students that people all over the world are watching the U.S. election closely. Ask students why citizens of other countries might be interested in this contest.
- Ask students to share some facts about each of the candidates in this race. Explain that they will choose a candidate to follow throughout the campaign. It may not be the candidate they would support, as it's important for equal numbers of students to follow each candidate. Keep in mind candidates from parties other than Republican and Democrat.
- Have students choose at least one news article about their candidate each week. If using a print newspaper, they can cut and paste the article into a scrapbook. If using an e-edition, they can use the email tool to send the article to themselves so they can begin an electronic scrapbook.
- For each article, students will outline the main facts and the details, creating an in-depth summary of the story.
- Students should focus on the candidate: the words they speak, the places they go, the events they participate in, their positions on key campaign issues, etc. Their scrapbook should show a complete profile of the candidate's "campaign trail." They should begin with a page of introduction explaining the purpose of the scrapbook and predictions about how the election might turn out. The next page should be a short biography of the candidate.

Extensions:

- Students should visit the official website of their candidate to find additional information for the biography page. (www.barackobama.com and www.johnmccain.com)
- Students will also want to check out editorials and editorial cartoons throughout the campaign to assess how their candidate is portrayed.
- This project might be a great one to put on display for parents to check out.

National Learning Standards:

McRel (Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning) Standards:

Civics, Standard 20. Understands the roles of political parties, campaigns, elections, and associations and groups in American politics.

Language Arts, Standard 10. Understands the characteristics and components of the media. Benchmark 10. Understands the influence of media on the democratic process.



In this Issue...

- *Following the election*
- *Lessons for language arts, science, social studies and math*
- *A biography of journalist Moses Yale Beach*

