

A Newsletter for Teachers

HOT Apple PIE

August 2008

Partners In Excellence

FROM YOUR NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

—Oct.—
Apple Slice
One Serving of Learning

Vote For Me!

Objectives:

Students will:

- Locate appropriate material to develop an informed opinion on important political issues
- Use newspapers to discuss politicians and policies
- Create a logo and slogan which represents their opinion
- Write a persuasive campaign speech using skills appropriate to formal speaking situations

Materials:

Newspapers (in print or electronic edition), and writing and drawing materials. Teachers may want to include rubric indicating what is expected.

Procedure:

1. Distribute newspapers or allow eEdition access. Instruct students to locate articles that are political in nature. If using eEdition, students may want to search using appropriate keywords including names, issues, etc.
2. Have students brainstorm a list of political issues that are important to adults. Then have them brainstorm a list of political issues that are important to people under 18 years of age. Skimming the newspaper for ideas will make the brainstorming easier. Compare the lists. Discuss where the needs of adults and children overlap.
3. Pose this question for debate: "Should this country have one leader for adults and another for kids?"
4. Explain the assignment. Students are to imagine that they have been nominated to run for leader of the under-18 population. They need to
 - write a campaign speech
 - design a logo
 - create a slogan

The speech should be a minimum of three paragraphs. The first will explain the need for a special leader for young people and give specific examples drawn from the news. The second paragraph will detail the specific qualities they possess for the job. The last paragraph should detail what they will do if elected.

5. Allow time for Peer Revision of the speeches before they are finalized. Peer advisors should edit for punctuation and content of specific examples.
6. Each student should be encouraged to present his or her speech and to display the logo and slogan.



National Learning Standards:

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

Language Arts, Level III, Benchmark 10
Writes persuasive compositions (e.g. engages the reader by establishing a context, develops a controlling idea that conveys a judgment, creates and organizes a structure appropriate to the needs of a specific audience)



In this Issue...

- *Following the election*
- *Lessons for language arts, science, social studies and math*
- *A biography of journalist Daniel Schorr*

