Topic: Social Studies Second grade, Civics and Government

Common Assessments on what students should know and do in this unit:
Key Learning: An organized government is necessary to ensure the cooperation and safety of its citizens; American citizens have rights and responsibilities, and have a reciprocal impact on the government and its services.

Unit Essential Question(s):
What is the purpose of government?

Concept: Rules and Laws
Lesson Essential Question(s):
Why do we have laws? (A)
What happens if we don’t follow rules and laws? (A)

Concept: Citizenship
Lesson Essential Question(s):
Why do we hold elections? (A)
Identify school projects/activities that support leadership and public service. (A)
Identify community projects/activities that support leadership and public service? (A)
What symbols represent our state? (A)
What documents are important to our state’s history? (A)
What document guarantees our right to vote? (A)
How are elections recorded and reported? (A)
How do we elect our officials in the United States? (A)
How is the purpose of an election? (A)
What are the rights and responsibilities of an active citizen? (A)
How can a citizen show patriotism? (A)
Identify a problem and probable resolution. (A)

Concept: Government
Lesson Essential Question(s):
What are the roles and responsibilities of government? (A)
Why does the government tax its citizens? (ET)

Vocabulary:
rule, law, consequence
Community, Constitution, Bill of Rights, leadership, citizenship, rights, responsibility, Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, principles, ideals, vote, election, patriotism, PA Constitution, PA state flag, state seal, state flower, state animal, state bird, election, register, ballot, campaign, Conflict Resolution
government, executive, legislative, judicial, tax, government services
Additional Information:

Civics and Government Glossary

Amendment (Constitutional): Changes in or additions to a constitution. Proposed by a 2/3 vote of both houses of Congress or by convention called by Congress at the request of 2/3 of the state legislatures. Ratified by approval of ¾ of the states.

Authority: Right to control or direct the actions of others, legitimized by law, morality, custom or consent.

Bill of Rights: First Ten Amendments to the Constitution. Ratified in 1791, these amendments limit government power and protect basic rights and liberties of individuals.

Checks and Balances: Constitutional mechanisms that authorize each branch of government to share powers with the other branches and thereby check their activities. For example, the president may veto legislation passed by Congress; the Senate must confirm major executive appointments and the courts may declare acts of Congress unconstitutional.

Citizen: Member of a political society who therefore owes allegiance to and is entitled to protection by and from the government.

Citizenship: Status of being a member of a state; one who owes allegiance to and is entitled to protection by and from the government.

Civic Life: A manner of existence of an individual concerned with the affairs of communities and the common good rather than solely in pursuit of private and personal interests.

Civil Rights: Protections and privileges given to all United States citizens by the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Common or Public Good: Benefit or interest of a politically organized society as a whole.

Conflict Resolution: The process of attempting to solve a dispute or conflict.

Country: The acceptable political boundaries or borders recognized throughout the world.

Democracy: Form of government in which political control is exercised by the people, either directly or through their elected representatives.

Diplomacy: The art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations.

Direct Democracy: Form of government in which the people completely exercise political decisions.


Electoral College: The group of presidential electors that casts the official votes for President after the presidential election. Each state has a number of electors equal to the total of its members in the Senate and House of Representatives.

Equality: The condition of possessing substantially the same rights, privileges and immunities, and being substantially responsible for the same duties as other members of society.

Foreign Policy: Actions of the federal government directed to matters beyond United States’ borders, especially relations with other countries.

Government: Institutions and procedures through which a territory and its people are ruled.

Individual Rights: Just claims due a person by law, morality or tradition as opposed to those due groups.

Interest Group: Organized body of individuals who share same goals and try to influence public policy to meet those goals.

Justice: That which may be obtained through fair distribution of benefits and burdens, fair correction of wrongs and injuries, or use of fair procedures in gathering information and making decisions.

Leadership: State of condition of one who guides or governs.

Liberalism: A perspective on international politics that is based on a positive view of human nature, the inevitability of social progress and the harmony of interests.

Liberty: Freedom from restraint under conditions essential to the equal enjoyment of the same right by others.

Mass Media: Television, radio, newspapers, magazines, and other means of popular communication.

Nation: Tends to refer to an ethnic group with a cultural and social community. A self-defined cultural community with a common identity and a common origin that spans generations.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic: Social Studies Second grade, Civics and Government</th>
<th>Days: 47</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject(s):</td>
<td>Grade(s):</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nationalism:</strong> A feeling of pride or passionate identification with a state on the part of its citizens.</td>
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<td><strong>Personal Rights:</strong> Private legal privileges and decisions that individuals are free to participate in without intervention from government. Personal rights would include the right to vote, petition, assemble, and seek public office.</td>
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<td><strong>Political Party:</strong> Any group, however loosely organized, that seeks to elect government officials under a given label.</td>
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<td><strong>Political Philosophy:</strong> Begins with the fundamental question about the relationship between a citizen and their state.</td>
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<td><strong>Public Service:</strong> Action of benefit to local, state or national communities through appointed or elected office.</td>
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<td><strong>Realism:</strong> A perspective on international politics emphasizing the inevitability of conflict among nations, the centrality of power and the ever-present threat of war.</td>
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<td><strong>Republic:</strong> Form of government in which political control is exercised through elected representatives.</td>
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<td><strong>Republican Form of Government:</strong> System of government in which power is held by the voters and is exercised by elected representatives responsible for promoting the common welfare.</td>
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<td><strong>Rule of Law:</strong> Principle that every member of society, even a ruler, must follow the law.</td>
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<td><strong>Sanctions:</strong> Measures to stop or limit trade with another nation in order to change its behavior.</td>
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<td><strong>State:</strong> A commonwealth; a nation; a civil power.</td>
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<td><strong>United Nations:</strong> International organization comprising most of the nation-states of the world. It was formed in 1945 to promote peace, security and economic development.</td>
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Attached Document(s):
Vocab Report for Topic: Social Studies Second grade, Civics and Government

Concept: Rules and Laws
rule -
law -
consequence -

Concept: Citizenship
community -
Constitution -
Bill of Rights -
leadership -
citizenship -
rights -
responsibility -
Pledge of Allegiance -
National Anthem -
principles -
ideals -
vote -
election -
patriotism -
PA Constitution -
PA state flag -
state seal -
state flower -
state animal -
state bird -
election -
register -
ballot -
campaign -
Conflict Resolution -

Concept: Government
government -
executive -
legislative -
judicial -
tax -
government services -
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

Lesson Essential Question:

Why do we have laws?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

Teaching Strategies:

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

What happens if we don't follow rules and laws?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

Why do we hold elections?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

Identify school projects/activities that support leadership and public service.

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

Identify community projects/activities that support leadership and public service?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

What symbols represent our state?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

What documents are important to our state's history?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

What document guarantees our right to vote?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

How are elections recorded and reported?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
Topic: Social Studies Second grade, Civics and Government  
Subject(s): 
Concept: Citizenship 

5. Acquisition Lesson 

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day 

Lesson Essential Question: 

How do we elect our officials in the United States? 

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question? 

Teaching Strategies: 

Time (in days): 

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

How is the purpose of an election?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

Lesson Essential Question:

What are the rights and responsibilities of an active citizen?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

Teaching Strategies:

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

How can a citizen show patriotism?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

Identify a problem and probable resolution.

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
5. Acquisition Lesson

Plan for the Concept, Topic, or Skill -- Not for the Day

**Lesson Essential Question:**

What are the roles and responsibilities of government?

What do students need to learn to be able to answer the Essential Question?

**Teaching Strategies:**

Time (in days):

1
6. Extending Thinking Lesson

Lesson Essential Question:

Why does the government tax its citizens?

Time (in days):

1
Topic: Social Studies Second grade, Civics and Government
Subject(s): 

Days: 47
Grade(s):