



Educator Resources

Wisconsin Vote is a service of Wisconsin Public Television and Wisconsin Public Radio.



Wisconsin Public Television

Researching My Elected Officials

OBJECTIVES

Students will research and identify their national, state, and local elected officials.

STANDARDS ADDRESSED

Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts

WHST.6-8.8 Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards for Information and Technology Literacy

Standard A: Media and Technology

- A.8.4** Use a computer and communications software to access and transmit information
- Use basic search engines and directories to locate resources on a specific topic

MATERIALS

- *My Elected Officials* worksheet (provided, one for each student)
- Device (computer, tablet, etc.) with internet access (one for each student)

- GRADES 5-8
- ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY LITERACY

PROCEDURE

Before the lesson, research your students' elected officials by visiting My Vote Wisconsin, found at myvote.wi.gov/en-us/ViewMyVotingActivity.

To begin the lesson, provide each student with a *My Elected Officials* worksheet. Provide students five minutes to complete as much of the worksheet as they are able using their prior knowledge. This will serve as a preassessment of students' knowledge of their national, state, and local elected officials. Inform students they are practicing researching their national, state, and local leaders so they are able to find the information now and in the future.

Next, instruct students to use a device with internet access to independently complete the *My Elected Officials* worksheet. Students must research all positions listed, even those they already knew, and cite the source where they found the information.

After 15 minutes, pause the students' research and ask volunteers to share online sources they found helpful. If necessary, remind students to use reputable resources, such as those created by the government. Provide students ample time to complete their research.

Review the students' responses as a class to check the responses for accuracy. Also have students share which sources they found helpful.

MY ELECTED OFFICIALS

First write the name of as many of the below officials as you are able. Then research each position, citing your source.

1. President of the United States

Name:

Source:

2. Vice President of the United States

Name:

Source:

3. State's U.S. Senators

Name:

Source:

Name:

Source:

4. Your District's U.S. Representative

Name:

Source:

5. Governor

Name:

Source:

6. Lieutenant Governor

Name:

Source:

7. County Clerk

Name:

Source:

8. County Sheriff

Name:

Source:

9. Mayor or Town Chairman

Name:

Source:

10. School Board Member

Name:

Source: