## Presidential Elections

Program Name
Staff Responsible for Lesson

Middletown ABLE
Lourdes Cordero


|  | Dictionary <br> "Electing a U.S. President" Video available from http://video.yahoo.com/watch/3764787/10329396 |
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| Activities | The teacher will survey the students to see what they know about the U.S. Presidential election process. <br> - What is an election? <br> - Who can vote in the U.S.? <br> - How long does a President serve? (term limit) <br> The teacher will distribute the election vocabulary list. Students will read the list and consult a dictionary as needed to understand the words. <br> Using a computer, students watch the video "Electing a U.S. President", which explains the election process. The teacher clarifies as necessary. <br> In pairs, students will compare the U.S. Presidential elections to the elections (or government) of their countries. <br> Whole class discusses major similarities and differences between U.S. and other countries. |
| Assessment/ Evidence | Class discussion |
| Reflection | The students enjoyed discussing their own cultures and civic election day. They found every country has similarities and differences. |



## Words to Help You

ballot - a list of people trying to get elected
campaign - when people act together to try to get a candidate elected to a job
candidate - a person who is trying to get elected
caucus - a meeting that happens in some states to choose candidates for the political party's convention (only members of the political party can go to these meetings)
convention - meeting where a political party chooses their candidate
debate - a formal meeting where the candidates discuss and argue about the things that they think are important in our country

Democrat - someone who belongs to the Democratic Party
Democratic Party - one of the two major political parties in the U.S. election - when people choose the person they want to do the job electoral votes - the number of votes each state has (based on the number of people who live in that state)
oath - a promise
polling location - place where people vote
primary - an election that happens in some states to choose candidates for the political party's convention (only members of the party can vote in these elections)
political party - people who have similar interests, beliefs and goals about the things that are important to our country

Republican - someone who belongs to the Republican Party
Republican Party - one of the two major political parties in the U.S.
running mate - a candidate who is running with another candidate
term - amount of time someone is elected for

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