

WHO ARE OUR LEADERS?

Performance Standard (14B/14C).B

Draw a picture of the president of the United States and a leader or official from their community. Write a sentence for each picture describing the duties of the official accordingly:

- *Knowledge*: identify the current United States President and one local official and match their pictures with their name and title;
- *Reasoning*: describe the duties of the President and the local official in a sentence;
- *Communication*: draw pictures of the current United States President and one local official and write a sentence describing the duties of each; express all ideas in a way that provides evidence of knowledge and reasoning processes.

Procedures

1. *In order to understand the structures and functions of the political systems of Illinois, the United States and other nations (14B), and understand election processes and responsibilities of citizens (14C)*, students should experience sufficient learning opportunities to develop the following:
 - Identify the officials and political bodies that form the organization of their local government (mayor, police chief, justice of the peace);
 - Name the current President of the United States; and
 - Identify elected leaders (e.g., mayor, governor, president).
2. Have students review and discuss the assessment task and how the rubric will be used to evaluate their work.
3. Read Celebrating Presidents' Day to students and discuss the jobs of the president.
4. Display a picture of the current President of the United States. (If internet is accessible you can visit the president at <http://www.whitehouse.gov>). Show a map of the 50 states and discuss the fact that the president is the leader of all the states.
5. Locate the approximate location of your town on the map and ask who the leaders of the town are. Discuss the duties of the town officials (mayor, police chief, judge, etc.). Share information about the local officials gathered from newspaper articles and the local government office. Invite local officials to visit the class and talk about their duties.
6. On a divided 9x12 sheet of construction paper students draw and color a picture of the current president of the United States and one local official (e.g. Mayor).
7. Have students label each picture with the appropriate title and the person's name.
8. Have students write at least one sentence describing what each official does.
9. Evaluate each student's work using the Social Science Rubric as follows and add the scores to determine the performance level:
 - *Knowledge*: the identification of the President and the local official were complete and accurate;
 - *Reasoning*: the descriptions of their duties were logical and accurate;
 - *Communication*: the pictures and sentences were well-organized and well-detailed; the knowledge and reasoning were completely and effectively communicated.

Examples of Student Work follow

Time Requirements

- Two class periods prior to assessment
- One period for the assessment

Resources

- Celebrating Presidents' Day: What is a President? By Kimberly Jordano and Trisha Callella-Jones, Published in 1999 by Creative Teaching Press
- A picture of the current US President
- A map of the United States
- Crayons or markers
- 9x12 divided white construction paper
- Writing paper
- Social Science Rubric

"Meets"

Mayor Mulach President Bush



The mayor is the
head of all kinds
of departments

He is the leader
of the U.S.A.

Mayor Mulsch "Exceeds"



Presides over town board meetings.
Head of the town - see if
well, Police

President Bush
He is the Leader of the
U.S.A. and he works
with the Congress and
May approve or veto
bills and he is the
Chief of the Executive
offices in chief
Commander-in-Chief of
the armed forces



Commander-in-Chief of
the armed forces