

Democracy For Juniors Badge

Activity Choice Descriptions

Walk your girls through the activity choices and let them decide which ones they like best.

Meeting 2 Activity Choices

Find Out About Our Country's Legislative Branch

Draft a Bill: Together with the group, read about how a bill becomes a law. Then, either on your own or in small groups, draft your own bill on a topic or issue that's important to you. Share your bill; be prepared to defend it and answer questions.

Map the Country: Each state in the country is represented by two people in the United States Senate. The House of Representatives is more complicated. There are currently 435 House members, and the number for each state is decided by the size of its population. Look at a map of the United States and find the current number of representatives in each state. Write each number on the map and color in the states with the most representatives. Do you agree with how the numbers are broken out? How do you feel about each state having the same number of senators?

Talk About Representation: With help from an adult, find out how many women are currently serving in the United States Senate and House of Representatives. Compare this year to previous years. What was the number when you were born? How about when some of the older women in your life were your age? After your meeting, talk to some of these women about the political shifts they've seen over time. How do they feel about them? Do they believe women are adequately represented in government today?

Find Out About Our Country's Executive Branch

Compare Presidents and Prime Ministers: Find a place led by a prime minister—such as the United Kingdom—and compare that role with president of the United States. (You might have an adult show you a video for kids online.) How are they different and alike? Talk about what you read or see.

Create a Presidential Trivia Contest: Which president had a cat named Socks? How many presidents have stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame? Come up with fun questions for your own quiz.

Craft Branches: Start by drawing a picture of a tree with three branches, then label the branches with each branch of government. Take a list of people or groups of people and make them into "leaves" for the corresponding branch. You can write them near the branches or cut out leaves from green construction paper and glue or tape them on.

Find Out About Our Country's Judicial Branch

Talk to a Lawyer: Have an adult help you find one to talk about what they do. Why did they choose their profession? How do the courts in the Supreme Court work with the other two branches of government? What do they think are the most important cases in national history? Ask any other questions you may have.

Talk to a Judge: Find out about what they do. How does the judicial branch work with the other two branches of government? What's the difference between the Supreme Court and local courts? How does a case make it to the Supreme Court? Ask any other questions you may have.

Talk to a Social Studies, History, or Civics Teacher: Find out how they teach their students about the judicial branch. How does the judicial branch work with the other two branches of government? Ask any other questions you may have.