

Picture Book: How Our Government Works

Directions: Your job is to create a picture book that *visually* explains how the government of the United States works. The book should cover *how Americans are represented in our government, how we select a president (including the Electoral College), how a bill becomes a law, how the Constitution can be amended, how our system of "checks and balances" works, federalism, and what role each of the three branches of government plays.*

The Process:

1. Meet with your group (groups can have from 1-3 people) and discuss your game plan
2. Look at each topic your book needs to cover -- come up with a general outline for how it works (make sure that your explanations could be understood by a 3rd grader)
3. Decide how to best visually represent each explanation with pictures and as FEW WORDS AS POSSIBLE
4. Use the materials provided (plus anything you'd like to bring from home) to create the covers and each page of your group's book
5. Make sure that your final product is unique, complete, accurate, and represents quality work
6. Turn the project in

Here's how you'll be graded:

	Unique	Complete	Accurate	Quality Work
4	The book and its contents are creative and unlike any others in the class	Book uses pictures and few words to explain all 7 topics	The book accurately portrays all 7 topics and how they work	The project is neat, colorful, shows attention to details, and reflects 8th grade work
3	The book and its contents are creative, but are similar to another group's work	Book uses pictures and few words to explain 6 topics	The book accurately portrays 6 of the 7 topics and how they work	The project exhibits 3 of the above characteristics
2	The book and its contents are minimally creative and like 2 or more other groups' works	Book uses pictures and few words to explain 4-5 topics	The book accurately portrays 4-5 of the topics and how they work	The project exhibits 2 of the above characteristics
1	The group put little effort into making their project creative and unique	Book uses pictures and few words to explain 2-3 topics	The book accurately portrays 2-3 of the topics and how they work	The project exhibits 1 of the above characteristics
0	The project reflects no attention to uniqueness or creativity	Book uses pictures and few words to explain fewer than 2 topics	The book accurately portrays fewer than 2 of the topics	The project exhibits none of the above characteristics

***The criteria in the rubric is worth a total of **64 points**. In addition, each group must check in with Mr. B each day and receive a daily work grade -- these are worth a total of **30 points** (10 pts per day for each of the 3 days of in-class work). **Total points for this project = 94**