

## SECOND GRADE

### ACTIVITY 1 – Why people form governments

*SS 2 C 1 1 Explain why people form governments.*

*SS 2 C 1 2 Explain the consequences of an absence of rules and laws.*

As a class, the students will create the class rules and discuss why each is important and what would happen if we didn't have rules.

### ACTIVITY 2 – Responsible citizenship

*SS 2 C 2 2 Define and apply the characteristics of responsible citizenship.*

*SS 2 c 2 4 Identify ways citizens can make a positive contribution in their community.*

After the teacher describes various jobs (i.e. door holder, runner, line leader, etc.) and their responsibilities, the students will campaign for class jobs they want to hold (tell why they'd be the best for the position). At the end of the campaign speeches, the teacher will hold a class vote to determine the winner of each position.

After the class has voted, they will highlight the importance of voting and discuss the presidential candidates, who they'd vote for and why.

### ACTIVITY 3 – Constitution

*SS 2 C 3 1 Identify the Constitution as the document, which establishes the structure, function, powers, and limits of American government.*

The teacher will read Shh! We're Writing the Constitution by Jean Fritz (or The U.S. Constitution and You by Syl Sobel), and discuss with the students the constitution and the various parts of it. The students will write a school constitution (as a whole class).