

## **Build Your Own Government Project**

You and your group will work together to create your own country and develop your own government system. You will need to come up with each of the following elements and then incorporate them onto a poster showing off the details about your country and its government.

### **Elements that Need to be Included:**

#### **1st step - Choose a name for your country**

Work with your group to come up with a name for your country. This name can be helpful for creating a sense of identity for your country. Brainstorm as a group if there are any common interests or passions you have and try to work around that as a theme. Think about what your name will say about your country.

#### **2nd step - Choose a form of government**

Decide as a group what form of government you want your country to have. Think about all of the different types of government we have covered (dictatorship, democracy, monarchy, oligarchy). Does one person or a small group get to decide on decisions for your country? Or does everyone have a say in their government? Is there a voting process for your citizens? How does someone become the leader?

#### **3rd step - Design a flag**

You and your group will create a flag for your country to be displayed proudly on your poster. It needs to represent the values of your country and each element you include needs to be somehow connected to what you want your country to represent. As a group, you will need to write a paragraph explaining what each element in your flag is and what it represents.

#### **4th step - Design currency**

What kind of money will the people in your country earn and spend? What is this currency (money) called? What does this money look like? Set prices for several (5-7) everyday items to show how much your currency is worth. Will you tax your citizens on the money they make? Will you use taxes to pay for government programs or will you have another form of income for your government?

#### **5th step - Make the laws**

A country is governed by its laws, but sometimes people break those laws. You will need to decide how it will be determined that someone broke the law. Also, you will need to decide what your country will do to punish or deal with those who broke the law. Who makes the decisions for your country on creating laws? Is it one person or many?

**6th step - Holidays**

What holidays will the citizens of your country celebrate? These can be existing holidays or new holidays you have made up specifically for your country. Make a list of these and give examples of how people in your country would celebrate.

**7th step - Rights of Citizens**

What rights do people have in your country? Your citizens can either have a lot of rights (education, health care, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, etc.) or very little rights. Look up what rights you have as a citizen of Canada for some ideas.

**8th step - Allies**

Does your country work with other countries to accomplish goals? Talk to other groups and see if their country's values align with yours. Decide who you would want to work with, or if your country is going to do it all alone.

**All of these elements NEED to be incorporated on your group's poster highlighting your country and its government in order to get full marks.**