

# South Australian elections

## Year 5

This learning:  
✓ Is **non-partisan and neutral**  
✓ Focuses on **process, not political views**

### Session 1: What is democracy and why do we vote?

#### Curriculum links:

AC9HC5K01, AC9HC5K02

#### Learning intention:

Students understand that elections are part of democracy and reflect shared values.

#### Key concepts:

Democracy, fairness, participation, voting

#### Learning activities:

- Class discussion:  
*“How do groups make decisions fairly?”*
- Introduce democracy using classroom examples
- Connect to the SA election: > “Adults are about to vote to choose leaders for South Australia.”

#### Student task:

- Create a simple definition of democracy
- Identify one democratic value seen in voting

#### Assessment (formative):

- Oral responses
- Exit slip: *“One reason we vote is...”*

### Session 2: How elections work in South Australia

#### Curriculum links:

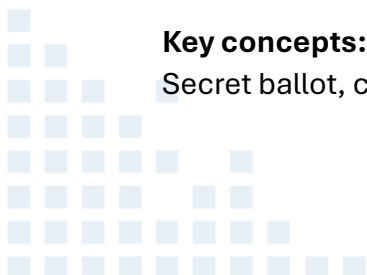
AC9HC5K02, AC9HC5S02

#### Learning intention:

Students understand key features of elections.

#### Key concepts:

Secret ballot, counting votes, fairness



**Learning activities:**

- Explain stages of an election:
  - Electoral Writ is issued
  - Candidates nominate
  - Ballot papers are printed
  - Voting period
  - Counting the votes
  - Results announced
  - Writ is returned

**2022 State election report****Student task:**

- Create a **flow chart** showing how an election works

**Assessment (formative):**

- Flow chart accuracy
- Correct use of vocabulary

**Session 3: Mock election – Democracy in action****Curriculum links:**

AC9HC5K02, AC9HC5S01

**Learning intention:**

Students experience democratic participation.

**Key concepts:**

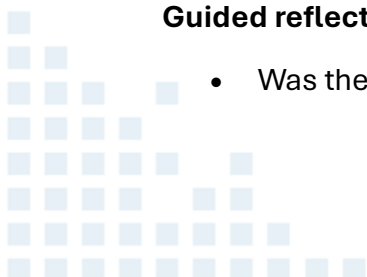
Participation, fairness, decision-making

**Learning activities:**

- Class vote on a neutral topic (e.g. class mascot or reward)
- Set up:
  - Ballot papers
  - Voting booths
  - Ballot box
- Count votes together - [How the votes are counted HA](#)

**Guided reflection questions:**

- Was the vote fair? Why?



- Why was voting in secret important?
- How was this similar to a real election?

**Assessment (observational):**

- Participation
- Reflection responses

**Session 4: Who is elected and what do they do?****Curriculum links:**

AC9HC5K03

**Learning intention:**

Students understand the role of elected representatives.

**Key concepts:**

Representation, responsibility, Parliament

**Learning activities:**

- Explain:
  - Members of Parliament represent communities
  - They make laws and decisions
- Local focus: > “South Australia elects MPs to make decisions for the state.”

**Student task:**

- Complete a role chart:  
**What MPs do / Who they are responsible to /**

**Guiding question:**

- “*Who do MPs work for?*”  
→ “The people and the whole community.”

**Session 5: Why elections matter****Curriculum links:**

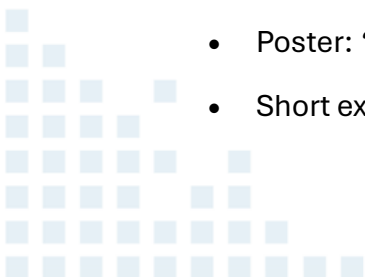
AC9HC5S03

**Learning intention:**

Students explain how elections support democracy.

**Assessment task (summative): Choose ONE:**

- Poster: “*How elections support democracy*”
- Short explanation: “*Why voting is important in Australia*”



- Illustrated information page on MPs' responsibilities

**Success criteria:**

- Uses correct civics terminology
- Explains at least one democratic value
- Links elections to fair decision-making

