Name: _____ Date: _____

Why Votes Are Kept Secret

Circle group

Grown-ups vote with a paper. The paper is a ballot. They mark their choice. They do it in a quiet spot with a little wall.

Then they fold the ballot. They put it in a box. No one sees how they voted.

Why is a vote secret? Each person picks what they want. No one can tease them. No one can say they are wrong.

Later, people count the ballots. They count the choices, not the names.

A secret vote lets each person choose.

Questions

1. What is the paper people vote on called?

_____

_____

2. Where do people put the ballots?

_____

_____

3. What do people count after the vote?

_____

_____

4. Why is a vote secret?

_____

_____

5. Why is there a little wall?

_____

_____

Words to know

ballot: the paper a person marks to vote
secret: something only you know
choice: the thing you pick

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Why Votes Are Kept Secret

Triangle group

When grown-ups vote, they get a paper called a ballot. They mark their choice on it. They do this in a quiet spot with a little wall around it.

Then they fold the ballot. They put it in a box. No one sees how they voted.

Why is a vote secret? Each person can choose what they really want. No one can tease them. No one can tell them they are wrong.

Later, people count all the ballots. They count the choices, not the names.

A secret vote lets every person choose freely.

Questions

1. What is a paper that people vote on called?

_____

_____

2. Where do people put their ballots?

_____

_____

3. What do people count after the vote?

_____

_____

4. Why is a vote kept secret?

_____

_____

5. Why is there a little wall around the quiet spot?

_____

_____

Words to know

ballot: the paper a person marks to vote
secret: something only you know
choice: the thing you pick

freely: without anyone telling you what to pick

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Why Votes Are Kept Secret

Square group

When grown-ups vote, they are handed a paper called a ballot, and they mark their choice on it. They do this in a quiet spot that has a small wall around it.

Next, they fold the ballot and drop it into a box. No one else gets to see how they voted.

Why is a vote kept secret? Because each person can choose what they truly want. No one can tease them, and no one can tell them that their choice is wrong.

Afterward, people count all of the ballots. They count the choices rather than the names.

A secret vote lets every person choose freely.

Questions

1. What is the paper that people vote on called?

_____

_____

2. Where do people drop their ballots?

_____

_____

3. What do people count after the vote is over?

_____

_____

4. Why is a vote kept secret?

_____

_____

5. Why is there a small wall around the quiet spot?

_____

_____

Words to know

ballot: the paper a person marks to vote
secret: something only you know
choice: the thing you pick

freely: without anyone telling you what to pick

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Why Votes Are Kept Secret

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Why Votes Are Kept Secret

Easier · 85 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.8

1. A ballot.
2. In a box.
3. The choices, not the names.
4. Each person picks what they want, and no one can tease them.
5. So no one can see how a person votes.

Triangle: Why Votes Are Kept Secret

This passage · 94 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.5

1. A ballot.
2. In a box.
3. The choices on the ballots, not the names.
4. Each person can choose what they really want, and no one can tease them.
5. So no one can see how a person marks their ballot.

Square: Why Votes Are Kept Secret

Harder · 107 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3

1. A ballot.
2. Into a box.
3. The choices on the ballots rather than the names.
4. Each person can choose what they truly want, and no one can tease them.
5. So that no one can see how a person marks the ballot.