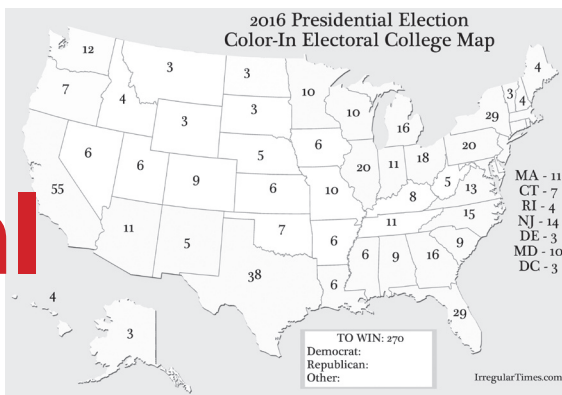


The Electoral College



Mini Tracker:

On election night, color in blue each state that votes Democrat. Color Republican states in red.

Nov. 8, 2016, is Election Day. People 18 and older will vote for president and vice president of the United States, along with other offices.

The candidates from each party run as a team. They are on the same ticket.

Our country uses the Electoral College system of voting for president. Each state is allotted a certain number of votes, called electoral votes.

The votes cast by individuals are called the popular vote. This week, The Mini Page learns more about how this system works.

The Electoral College

Voting is the most important duty a citizen performs. But there is another step after individuals vote. It is called the Electoral College.

This is not a college with a campus and students. Another meaning for "college" is a group that meets and has special duties.

The Electoral College has the duty to elect the president of the United States. The vote is based on how the people in each state voted.

Electoral votes

Each state gets a number of electoral votes equal to the number of members it has in the U.S. Congress. For example: North Carolina has 13 representatives and two senators, so it gets 15 electoral votes.



The political parties in each state nominate a set of electors equal to the state's number of

members of Congress. So North Carolina has 15 Republican and 15 Democratic electors.

If the popular vote goes for the Republican candidate in that state, the Republican electors cast their votes for him or her.

The electoral votes total 538. This number is based on the total number of members of Congress.

Voting day

On the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, voters go to the polls. The winning ticket in each state gets all of that state's electoral votes (except in Maine and Nebraska, where the electoral vote may be split between the candidates).

We usually know who the winner is on election night by counting the electoral votes. However, there are other steps to make it official.

Presenting the votes

In December, the winning electors, or special voters from each state, meet in their state capitals and cast their votes. These electoral votes are put into sealed envelopes and sent to the president of the U.S. Senate. On Jan. 6, he or she opens the envelopes. The results are read before a meeting of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.



People vote in Idaho in 2008.

Find your state

Below are the electoral votes for each state and the District of Columbia.

Alabama	9
Alaska	3
Arizona	11
Arkansas	6
California	55
Colorado	9
Connecticut	7
Delaware	3
District of Columbia	3
Florida	29
Georgia	16
Hawaii	4
Idaho	4
Illinois	20
Indiana	11
Iowa	6
Kansas	6
Kentucky	8
Louisiana	8
Maine	4
Maryland	10
Massachusetts	11
Michigan	16
Minnesota	10
Mississippi	6
Missouri	10
Montana	3
Nebraska	5
Nevada	6
New Hampshire	4
New Jersey	14
New Mexico	5
New York	29
North Carolina	15
North Dakota	3
Ohio	18
Oklahoma	7
Oregon	7
Pennsylvania	20
Rhode Island	4
South Carolina	9
South Dakota	3
Tennessee	11
Texas	38
Utah	6
Vermont	3
Virginia	13
Washington	12
West Virginia	5
Wisconsin	10
Wyoming	3

TOTAL538
Needed to win270

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of the Electoral College are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



BLUE, CAST, COLLEGE, CONGRESS, DAY, DEMOCRAT, DISTRICT, DUTIES, ELECTORAL, NOVEMBER, PARTIES, POLL, POPULAR, PRESIDENT, RED, REPUBLICAN, STATES, TICKET, VICE, VOTES.

P R E S I D E N T S E T A T S
R E P U B L I C A N L S S N N
Z N O V E M B E R Y A O U A K
D S L E N D E M O C R A T X C
U E L J T I C K E T L D A Y U
T T S S E R G N O C T D X V R
I O K B L U E H P A R T I E S
E V R V H T C I R T S I D S R
S C O L L E G E R A L U P O P
L A R O T C E L E O Q E C I V

Cook's Corner

All-American Apple Cobbler

You'll need:

- 6 apples, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 3 tablespoons water

- 1 tablespoon plus 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine, melted



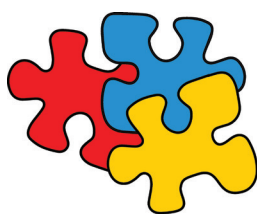
What to do:

1. Combine first four ingredients, plus 1 tablespoon flour, in a medium bowl. Mix well.
2. Placed in a greased casserole.
3. Combine 1 cup flour and remaining ingredients in a medium bowl. Mix well.
4. Crumble brown sugar topping evenly over apples.
5. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 45 minutes or until topping is slightly browned. Serves 8.

* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

Puzzling

Unscramble the words below that remind us of voting.



aidetandc _____
gnacampi _____
istcilpo _____
nriwne _____

Answers: candidate, campaign, politics, winner.

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/2bCYSxy
- bit.ly/2bDj5nW
- youtu.be/W9H3gvnN468

At the library:

- "We Elect a President: The Story of Our Electoral College" by Tara Ross

Mini Jokes



- Ralph:** Why do elephants wear trunks?
Renee: So they won't be embarrassed!
- Dan:** What do donkeys send out near Christmas?
Debbie: Mule-tide greetings!

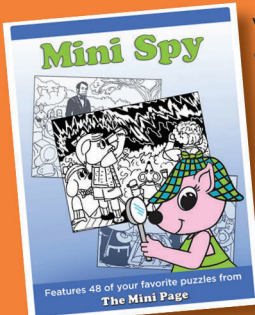
Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching_guides.html

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