

What in the World is a Chief Executive?!

Teacher Guide

Objectives: To cause students to understand the overwhelming task of inventing the office of President of the United States.

To invent the Office of President in the present day perimeters.

Timeline: 2-3 class periods.

Day 1:

- Explain the activity. Assign or allow students to choose a character to research.
- Outline the characteristics of the Federalists and Anti-Federalists or assign students to research this information.
- Allow students to research their characters political position.

Day 2:

- Students divide into Federalist and Anti-Federalists.
- Allow students to create solutions for the Issues according to Federalist or Anti-Federalist positions.

Day 3: Committee on Office of President Meeting

- Choose a Presiding Officer. He/she will be responsible for moving the meeting through each issue, counting votes and maintain order.
- Determine how many votes will be required to pass a plan (simple majority, 2/3 vote, percentage, etc.)

Suggestions:

- If you have more students than Founding Fathers you can certainly add more.
- Remind students that they are not 'enemies'. There is not a winner or a loser. They must work together to establish this new office.
- Although there is room for humor, expect students to play their role with seriousness and respect to their Founding Fathers. The questions may seem trivial now, but at the time every little detail was important.
- This activity is to implement the office of President but you can easily expand it to recreate Article II.