



## SUFFRAGE SEQUENCE CARDS

(20-25 minutes)

### OBJECTIVE

Students order and examine the history of voting rights to gain a better understanding of the right to vote.

### MATERIALS

*U.S. Suffrage Timeline Cards* handout; *U.S. Suffrage Timeline Cards with Dates* handout

### GET READY

- ✓ Copy and cut a set of *U.S. Suffrage Timeline Cards* for each group of three to five students.
- ✓ Copy a *U.S. Suffrage Timeline Cards with Dates* handout sheet for each group.
- ✓ See “The Right to Vote” in the Appendix.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Have your students divide into groups of three to five.
- ✓ Give each group a set of suffrage sequence cards.
- ✓ Explain to the groups that they need to put the cards in chronological order. Allow an adequate amount of time for the groups to order the cards.
- ✓ When it seems like all, or most, of the groups have finished, call the game and provide each group with an answer key handout.
- ✓ Go over the correct sequencing as a class.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ *Do you think we will ever need to add new cards to this game? If yes, what makes you think so?*
- ★ *Who still cannot vote? Should they be able to vote? Why or why not?*
- ★ *Why do people want the right to vote?*
- ★ *Why did it take so long for some groups to gain the right to vote?*
- ★ *Do you know what each group did to gain the right to vote? How could you find out?*

### MORE!

Assign students to discover and report what various populations did to gain the right to vote.

### VOTE QUOTE

“Vote as an individual; lemmings end up falling off cliffs.” –Pierre S. du Pont



U.S. SUFFRAGE TIMELINE CARDS

<p>The Declaration of Independence is signed. The right to vote is based on property ownership. Suffrage is primarily for white male Protestants over the age of 21.</p>	<p>The 24th Amendment passes, outlawing the poll tax.</p>	<p>With the Civil War over, lawmakers enact the 14th Amendment, granting citizenship to African-Americans and permitting them to vote. But state officials still attempt to deny them the right to vote.</p>
<p>The Constitution is drafted. States are given the power to regulate their own suffrage laws and favor white male landowners.</p>	<p>Further amendments to the Voting Rights Act require that many voting materials be printed in the languages of various minority groups.</p>	<p>The 15th Amendment is ratified, providing the legal rights of African-Americans to vote and prohibiting state and local governments from denying that right.</p>
<p>George Washington is elected president by the Electoral College. Only 6 percent of the entire population is involved in the election.</p>	<p>The Voting Rights Act passes after Martin Luther King, Jr. leads 25,000 people on a march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, to dramatize the need for more voting rights.</p>	<p>Wyoming becomes a state and is the first state to provide suffrage for women in its Constitution.</p>
<p>Vermont declares that all adult white males, regardless of property ownership or religion, can vote.</p>	<p>The 26th Amendment lowers the voting age from 21 to 18.</p>	<p>The Civil Rights Act passes, allowing punishment for interference with, or disruption of, protection for African-American voters.</p>
<p>Rhode Island does not follow the lead of Vermont and other states with reformed voting rights. A rebellion begins and forces Rhode Island to adopt a new Constitution. This allows broader voting rights.</p>	<p>Before the signing of the Constitution, many communities vote in ways similar to their European home countries.</p>	<p>The 19th Amendment is ratified, giving women the right to vote.</p>
<p>Because African-Americans and women suffer discrimination at the polls, Elizabeth Cady Stanton sets forth resolutions for women’s suffrage at the first convention of women’s rights advocates. They pass.</p>	<p>A Civil Rights Act defines citizenship and prohibits discrimination based on race. The Republican Congress overrides the veto of President Andrew Jackson, hoping to lure the vote of former slaves.</p>	<p>Poll taxes, grandfather clauses and literacy tests are introduced in many Southern states. They are designed to restrict the ability of African-Americans to register and vote.</p>
<p>Georgia lowers its voting age from 21 to 18 in state and local elections.</p>	<p>The National American Woman Suffrage Association is founded, with Susan B. Anthony as president.</p>	<p>Miguel Trujillo, a Native American and former Marine, wins a suit against New Mexico for not allowing him to vote. New Mexico and Arizona are required to give the vote to all Native Americans.</p>
<p>The Voting Rights Act is amended to lower the voting age to 18 and ban the use of literacy tests.</p>		



## U.S. SUFFRAGE TIMELINE CARDS WITH DATES

1776 – The Declaration of Independence is signed. The right to vote is based on property ownership. Suffrage is primarily for white male Protestants over the age of 21.	1964 – The 24th Amendment passes, outlawing the poll tax.	1868 – With the Civil War over, lawmakers enact the 14th Amendment, granting citizenship to African-Americans and permitting them to vote. But state officials still attempt to deny them the right to vote.
1787 – The Constitution is drafted. States are given the power to regulate their own suffrage laws and favor white male landowners.	1975 – Further amendments to the Voting Rights Act require that many voting materials be printed in the languages of various minority groups.	1870 – The 15th Amendment is ratified, providing the legal rights of African-Americans to vote and prohibiting state and local governments from denying that right.
1789 – George Washington is elected president by the Electoral College. Only 6 percent of the entire population is involved in the election.	1965 – The Voting Rights Act passes after Martin Luther King, Jr. leads 25,000 people on a march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, to dramatize the need for more voting rights.	1890 – Wyoming becomes a state and is the first state to provide suffrage for women in its Constitution.
1791 – Vermont declares that all adult white males, regardless of property ownership or religion, can vote.	1971 – The 26th Amendment lowers the voting age from 21 to 18.	1957 – The Civil Rights Act passes, allowing punishment for interference with, or disruption of, protection for African-American voters.
1842 – Rhode Island does not follow the lead of Vermont and other states with reformed voting rights. A rebellion begins and forces Rhode Island to adopt a new Constitution. This allows broader voting rights.	Before 1776 – Before the signing of the Constitution, many communities vote in ways similar to their European home countries.	1920 – The 19th Amendment is ratified, giving women the right to vote.
1848 – Because African-Americans and women suffer discrimination at the polls, Elizabeth Cady Stanton sets forth resolutions for women’s suffrage at the first convention of women’s rights advocates. They pass.	1865 – A Civil Rights Act defines citizenship and prohibits discrimination based on race. The Republican Congress overrides the veto of President Andrew Jackson, hoping to lure the vote of former slaves.	1876 – Poll taxes, grandfather clauses and literacy tests are introduced in many Southern states. They are designed to restrict the ability of African-Americans to register and vote.
1943 – Georgia lowers its voting age from 21 to 18 in state and local elections.	1869 – The National American Woman Suffrage Association is founded, with Susan B. Anthony as president.	1947 – Miguel Trujillo, a Native American and former Marine, wins a suit against New Mexico for not allowing him to vote. New Mexico and Arizona are required to give the vote to all Native Americans.
1970 – The Voting Rights Act is amended to lower the voting age to 18 and ban the use of literacy tests.		