**The Electoral College: Does every citizen of the United States really have an equal vote?**

Check it out on TEDed: <http://ed.ted.com/lessons/does-your-vote-count-the-electoral-college-explained-christina-greer#watch>

**Discuss**

1. How does your country set up government? Are there elections? Are there political parties?
2. In your country, do individuals run for office or does a party run?
3. Do you vote?

**Vocabulary**

1. Electoral college (noun phrase)
2. Elector (n.)
3. Candidate (n.)
4. Formally (adj.)
5. Rural (adj.)
6. Urban (adj.)
7. Densely populated (adj. phrase)

**Formally elect president and vice-president**

1. Where can you find the rules for the electoral college?
2. How many electors are there?
3. How do they decide how many electors a state can have?
4. How many electoral college votes does a candidate need to win the presidency?
5. How many electoral college votes does a candidate get if he/she loses a state by ONE vote?
6. What is the difference between electoral college votes and the popular vote?
7. Can you win the White House with fewer votes than the other candidate?
8. Why do the candidates pay more attention to densely populated states than smaller, less-populated states?
9. What are the advantages of the electoral college for big states?
10. What are the advantages for small states?
11. What is a swing state?
12. Is New York a swing state?

**DECIDE**

1. Does the electoral college seem fair to you?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of having an electoral college?

**Write**

Is the electoral college a good idea or a bad idea? One paragraph with three reasons that support your answer.