• **WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT POWER, PRINCIPLES AND POLITICS?**

**LEARNING TARGETS:**

• Conduct a “Personal Power Assessment”
• Explain the relationship between power and politics and economics.
• Compare claims about power and determine which is more persuasive.
You will be playing a game where you trade colored chips for 2 minutes.

The student with the most points will make a rule for the next round (which applies only to the next round).

I will randomly give you some chips of differing colors to play the chip game.

This is ALL the information you will have to trade.

Just move around the room and trade in any way you think makes sense.
Round 1

- You may trade for 2 minutes.
All trades must stop now! Use these points to calculate the point value of your chips:

- Green = 10 points each
- Yellow = 25 points each
- Orange = 50 points each
- Pink = 100 points each
Who has the most points?

Now the student with the most points will make a rule for the next round. The new rule cannot end all trading.

Remember, this new rule only applies to the next round.
Round 2

- You may trade for 2 minutes.
All trades must stop now! Use these points to calculate the point value of your chips:

- **Green** = 10 points each
- **Yellow** = 25 points each
- **Orange** = 50 points each
- **Pink** = 100 points each
Who has the most points?

Now the student with the most points will make a rule for the next round. The new rule cannot end all trading.

Remember, this new rule only applies to the next round.
Round 3

- You may begin trading for 2 minutes.
All trades must stop now! Use these points to calculate the point value of your chips:

- Green = 10 points each
- Yellow = 25 points each
- Orange = 50 points each
- Pink = 100 points each
Who has the most points?

Now the student with the most points will make a rule for the next round. The new rule cannot end all trading.

Remember, this new rule only applies to the next round.
Round 4 (if necessary)

- You may begin trading for 2 minutes.
All trades must stop now! Use these points to calculate the point value of your chips:

- Green = 10 points each
- Yellow = 25 points each
- Orange = 50 points each
- Pink = 100 points each
Please start a new page of Cornell Notes with Questions on the left and Notes on the right.

- Please wait to draw your “Reflection” line until the end of the lesson.
Cornell Note Reflection

- What happened to you personally during the game?
- What happened to the class dynamics during the game?
- How might this game be related to our Government class?
- Based on this experience, how would you define power?
POWER:

- The ability to cause others to behave as they might not otherwise choose to do.

- Write a question in the left column about power to remind you to study this definition for the test.
PERSONAL POWER ASSESSMENT

- In the “Notes” section, make a list of all the individuals and organizations that have power over you. For each item, write a brief description of how it has power over you.

- Ex: parents – set my curfew
PERSONAL POWER ASSESSMENT

- Now, make a list of all the individuals and organizations in which you have at least some power. For each one, briefly describe how you have power.

- Ex: HOSA - president
For the following slides, please make sure that the concepts in beige are included in the “Notes” section.

Be sure to continue to write questions in the left column for concepts that might be on the test.
Civic Literacy is exercising your POWER as a citizen (A4 Citizen)

- **AWARE** readers & listeners
  - What’s happening in my city, state & country?

- **ASTUTE** questioners
  - Why should I care enough to question those in power?

- **ARTICULATE** writers & speakers
  - Where do I stand on issues important to me?

- **ACTIVE** problem-solvers (alliances)
  - How can I form/join alliances for change?
HOW DOES POWER GET ALLOCATED (distributed)?

It starts with

- **Self-interest** –
- **WIIFM**--What’s in it for me?

- **Scarcity**
  - Unlimited wants vs. limited resources

“Waaaaaaaaaaa!”
Scarcity creates

COMPETING INTERESTS

– political parties
  • Republicans v. Democrats

– special interest groups
  • NRA v. Brady Campaign

– generations
  • baby boomers v. millennials

– economic groups
  • workers v. corporations
  • 99% v 1% (richest Americans)
Competition forces society to make **CHOICES** and **COMPROMISES** on--

**Laws:** How much liberty should we give up in order to be secure and protected?
- airport security; NSA

**Taxes:** How much $$ (property) should we give up trade for gov’t programs we need?
- college grants/loans v social security

**Foreign Policy:** Which countries should we help or attack?
- Iraq v. Rwanda
Politics and Economics

How societies balance SCARCITY & COMPETING INTERESTS to allocate Power = Political Systems

Resources = Economic Systems
What is Politics?

FROM THE GREEK
POLY - MANY
TICKS = BLOOD-SUCKING INSECTS
“Official Definition”: POLITICS

- POLITICS: Who decides and how do they get the power to decide?

- ECONOMICS: Who owns/controls resources and decides who does and gets what?
With a partner, complete the “Quotations about Power” worksheet.

Read the quotes about power. Assign each quote a “truth ranking” from 1 to 5. Put a star by the quote you think is MOST true, and an X by the quote you think is LEAST true.

1 2 3 4 5
Never True Seldom True Sometimes True Often True Always True
Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men.

—Martin Luther King Jr., *Strength to Love*, 1963
Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.

—Lord Acton, *Letter to Bishop Mandell Creighton*, 1887
It is not power that corrupts but fear. Fear of losing power corrupts those who wield it and fear of the scourge of power corrupts those who are subject to it.

—Aung San Suu Kyi
“Freedom from fear” speech, 1990
Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun.

—Mao Zedong
The men who create power make an indispensable contribution to the Nation’s greatness, but the men who question power make a contribution just as indispensable.

—John F. Kennedy, speech at Amherst College, 1963
Above all, we must realize that no arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women.

—Ronald Reagan
First Inaugural Address, 1981
When I despair, I remember that all through history the ways of truth and love have always won. There have been tyrants, and murderers, and for a time they can seem invincible, but in the end they always fall.

—Mohandas Gandhi
When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace.

—Jimi Hendrix
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<td>Never True</td>
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This country has been strip-mined by rich and powerful interests. If you don’t like what they’re doing, don’t just sit there.

—Ralph Nader, 1992
“Cornell-ize” Your Notes

- Make sure you have 3-4 questions in the left margin.
- Be sure to write the questions across from the answers in the Notes section.
- Then, write a Reflection using the prompt on the following slide.
Cornell Note REFLECTION (4-5 sentences):

Using the quotes on the worksheet, write about what you learned about POWER. Support your answers with evidence. Here are some questions to get you thinking:

- Which of the quotations do you think is the most true about your experience with power and why?
- Do you agree that citizens usually act in their own self interest? Why or why not?
- Write about an example of the self-interest v. scarcity problem in your own life or in our country.