

Cardiff and Vale Scouts Session Plan 1
Ages 10-14
1.5 - 2 hours

Session Aims:

- Discuss at least one issue they care about (eg. school, litter in their area, lack of youth clubs) and show how this links into politics
- Understand how they can use their voice to raise awareness on issues they care about
- Use at least one immersive/digital tool to share their view
- Introduce political literacy by linking in certain terms eg. democracy, petitions, community

Session materials (provided by BGC Wales):

- A3 paper
- Pens
- VR headsets
- Pizza

Session Plan:

Intro (15 mins)

- Introduce myself and BGC Wales and what we aim to do as an organisation, briefly explain the layout of the session
- Order pizza: split into groups of 2/3 and ask them to decide on a pizza between each group (link to democracy on having conversations to settle on which pizza to order as a group)

Activity 1: Ice breaker (5 mins)

- Ask young people to shout out what their favourite form of technology is and why

Activity 2: Linking Democracy and Technology (10 mins)

- Within small groups using A3 sheets of paper, ask questions to introduce the session objectives eg. "What words come to mind when you hear 'technology'?" "What words come to mind when you hear 'politics' or 'democracy'?"
- Incorporating their responses, explain what the terms 'digital inclusion' and 'democracy' mean so there is a baseline understanding for the rest of the session

Activity 3: Immersive technology (25 mins)

- Using a VR headset, explain what it is and how it is used
- Allow the young people to have a turn 2-3 minutes each to watch a fun, appropriate immersive video eg.

- Afterwards ask questions: did you like it?/How did it make you feel?/Is it easy for young people to access technology like this? - use this question to link into next activity surrounding politics

Pizza should arrive

Activity 4: What Issue do you Care About? (15 mins)

- Start with the question 'Is it easy for young people to access technology like this?', asking young people to write down why it may/may not be, identifying potential barriers in communities
- From here, using A3 paper, ask young people to discuss what other areas may be difficult to access/any other issues they are aware of in their area
- Through this activity, we can explore issues which young people may be concerned about in their area

Activity 5: How to Raise Your Voice (15 mins)

- Discuss ways in which we can tackle these issues eg. fundraising activities, start petitions to local government/the Senedd
- Use this activity to introduce how young people can use their voice to address issues that matter to them and effect their community

Reflection task: (5 - 10 mins)

- To gather feedback on the session, ask questions such as: do you have a better understanding of technology, do you feel more confident discussing political issues etc.
- Those who are 14, ask if they are registered to vote and if not show them how/help them to register to vote. Those who are under 14, ask them if they are likely to vote when they are older

Cardiff and Vale Scouts Session plan 2

Ages 14-18

1hr - 1.5hrs

Session Aims:

- Build confidence discussing political ideas
- Encourage respectful debate and listening
- Introduce key political concepts in a relatable way
- Make politics feel relevant to young people's lives

Session Materials (to be provided by BGC Wales):

- A3/A4 paper
- Pens
- Pizza

Session Plan:

Intro (15 mins)

- Introduce myself and BGC Wales and what we aim to do as an organisation, briefly explain the layout of the session
- Order pizza: split into groups of 2/3 and ask them to decide on a pizza between each group (link to democracy on having conversations to settle on which pizza to order as a group)

Activity 1 - Ice Breaker: this or that? (5-10 mins)

- Ask young people to stand on a certain side of the room depending on whether they agree or disagree on certain statements eg. all schools should have a uniform, voting should be mandatory, young people are listened to in politics
- Ask if any of the young people want to explain their answer (won't call out people individually if they do not want to discuss in front of a group)

Activity 2 - Debate (25 mins)

- Depending on group size, split up into 2/4 groups and give them a topic to debate (one group arguing each side). First 10 mins using no phones to think of discussion points, second 10 mins they can use phones to add to discussion points
- If group is comfortable, we can then have a mini debate where each group argues their side, keeping respectful and civil conversation

Pizza should arrive

Activity 3 - Party views (20 mins)

- Using the debate topics, discuss where each party would align their view. Eg. if the debate topic was 'Global warming is a serious issue in Wales'. This will open up a discussion on party policies and educate the young people on what certain parties value.

Feedback (5 - 10 mins)

- Ask questions to see if anything was learnt during the session, eg. During the debates, was anyone's mind changed by their opposing group? What was the most interesting opinion you heard that you hadn't considered before? What issue do you think deserves more attention?
- Ask the young people what they would like to be added to improve the session
- Ask if everyone is registered to vote. If not, ask if they would like to register to vote and show them how/help them to register to vote