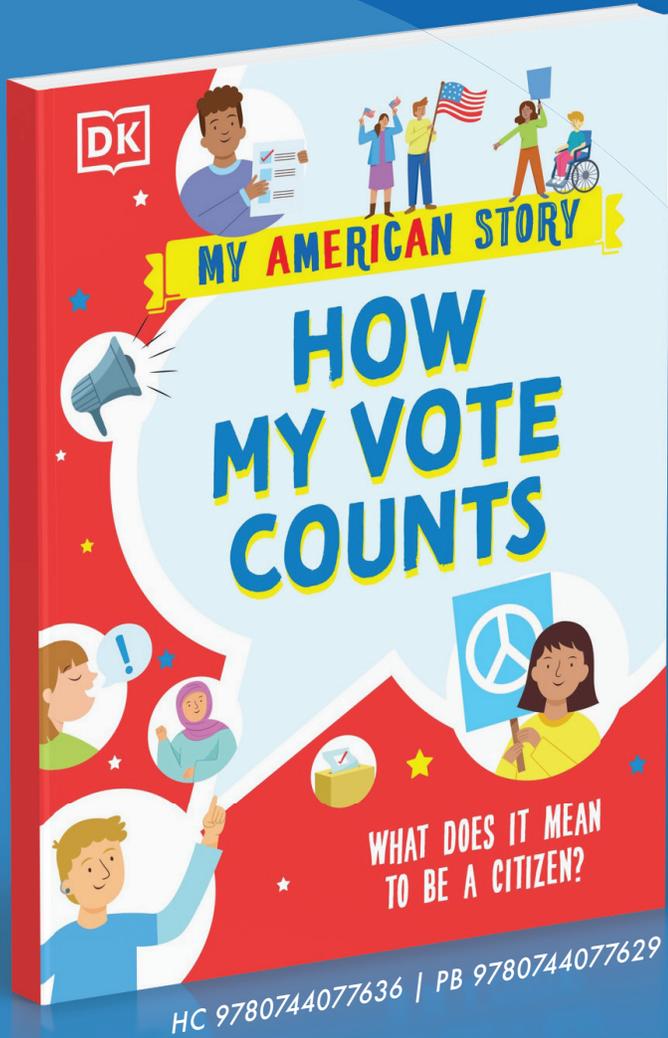




MY AMERICAN STORY

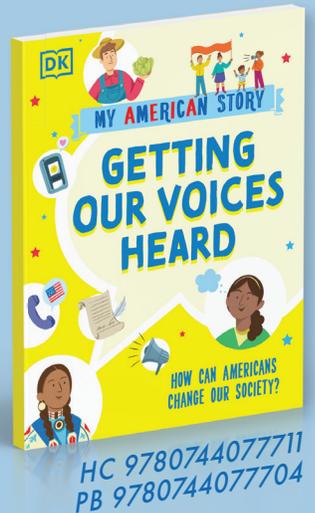
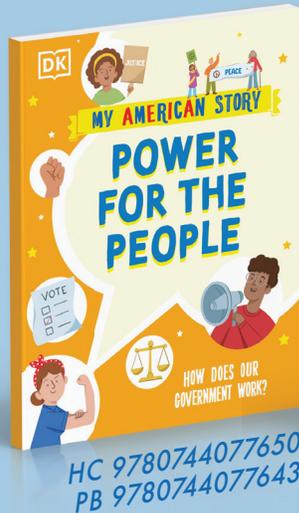
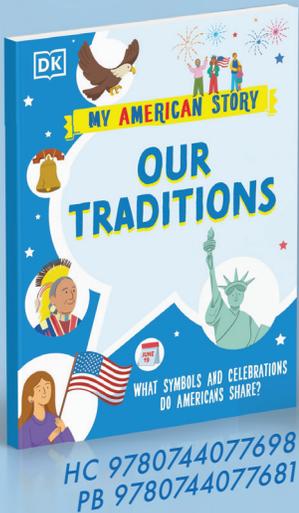


HOW MY VOTE COUNTS

ACTIVITY PACK



OTHER TITLES IN THE MY AMERICAN STORY SERIES





★ DRAW A LINE TO MATCH THE WORD TO THE CORRECT DEFINITION.



NATURALIZATION

MONEY PAID TO THE GOVERNMENT TO BE USED FOR PUBLIC SERVICES

IMMIGRANT

RIGHTS TO EQUAL TREATMENT AND PROTECTION BY THE LAW, SUCH AS THE RIGHT TO VOTE

TAX

A PERSON WHO COMES TO ANOTHER COUNTRY TO LIVE

DEMOCRACY

A FORM OF GOVERNMENT THAT IS RUN BY A COUNTRY'S PEOPLE

CIVIL RIGHTS

THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A U.S. CITIZEN





SIGNED INTO LAW IN THE LATE 1700S, THE CONSTITUTION AND THE BILL OF RIGHTS PROTECTED THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES.

But this did not include the rights of everyone who lived in the United States. Women, Indigenous people, and Black people were not seen as citizens, so they were not protected by these laws.

Many people worked hard to pass additional laws that improved life in the U.S. for everyone. These important changes were driven by social movements where people advocated for equal rights and fairness.

Look through the book to read about the following laws. **Write one sentence for each law** explaining why it matters and how it helped make life better for people.

INDIAN CITIZENSHIP ACT OF 1924

FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT OF 1938

THE EQUAL PAY ACT OF 1963

THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965





MY VOTE MATTERS!



Voting is an important process. The U.S. is a **democratic republic**, which means laws are passed by elected officials. U.S. citizens have the right to vote to decide who will be elected by submitting a **ballot**. Ballots list the choices of candidates who are running for office.

Now, it's your turn to participate in a mock election by filling out the sample ballot below.

CAST YOUR VOTE BY SELECTING YOUR FAVORITE OPTIONS.

VOTE FOR THE ORGANIZATION YOUR CLASS SHOULD FUNDRAISE FOR

- OCEAN CLEANUP PROGRAM
- ANIMAL SHELTER
- CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
- COMMUNITY GARDEN

VOTE FOR THE BEST CLASSROOM SEATING ARRANGEMENT

- GROUP TABLES
- ROWS
- U-SHAPE

VOTE FOR THE BEST END-OF-DAY CLASSROOM ROUTINE

- QUIET READING
- CLASSROOM CLEAN-UP
- STORY TIME
- FREE DRAWING

VOTE FOR AN IMAGINARY CLASSROOM PET

- GIANT HAMSTER
- FLYING DOG
- MINIATURE UNICORN
- GLOW-IN-THE-DARK PENGUIN



NOTE TO THE GROWN-UP: HAVE KIDS TALLY THEIR VOTES TO SEE WHICH OPTIONS "WON" THE ELECTION. THEN, DISCUSS WHY THEY VOTED FOR THEIR CHOICES AND WHY ELECTIONS MATTERS.

READY TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD?

Pick a topic you care about—like protecting animals, keeping your park clean, or anything you're passionate about—and create an awesome **campaign poster** to spread the word!

Draw, color, and decorate your poster with a catchy slogan like "Save the Rainforests!" or "Be a Recycling Hero!" Then, share your poster with family and friends and tell them why your topic matters and how they can help, too.

