



Key Stage 2

Understanding our Parliament

Lesson Plan

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Objectives

By the end of the session, students would be able to:

- Explain the functions of the Parliament
- Describe the fundamental workings of the People's Majlis
- Understand the law-making process

Curriculum Link

Social Studies Curriculum Strand 5: Active Citizenship (Grade 4, 5, 6)

AC 3.1: Explains how families, schools and other groups develop, enforce and change rules of behaviour.

AC 3.2: Becomes aware of the importance of a government to a country and explores the three branches of the Maldivian government.

Success Criteria

Students will be able to:

- Describe the 3 key functions of Parliament.
- Explain who members of Parliament are, how they are selected and their role in Parliament.
- Describe the sequential steps in the law-making process.

Setting or Resources required

- Factsheet
- PPT "People's Majlis"

Procedure

Introduction (15 minutes)

Ask students to think back on the Social Studies lesson they learnt about different rules among various groups in the community like family rules, school rules, rules to follow at a Park, etc.

Prompt their thoughts about the importance of those rules (keeps everyone safe, gives equality to all, allows fair treatment among each other, etc.)

Make the connection of how rules in a country are important for the same reasons.

Now ask students if they know the term for the rules to be followed by everyone in the country.

Explain the definition of Law. (Law = set of rules established by the Government to hold all citizens to the same standard, Similar to how breaking rules are followed by consequences, serious consequences or punishments are written down for anyone who breaks the law)

Ask students the following questions

Where are the laws made in Maldives? Who makes the laws?

Who are the people involved in this process

Now question students to recall the lesson on Branches of State. Bring to focus that today's lesson will be about the Legislative branch or the People's Majlis of Maldives.

Ask students the following questions

Who works there?

Who is the Head of the People's Majlis?

What do they do at the Majlis?

Use the PPT to introduce and explain the workings of the Majlis

Activity (15 minutes)

Tell the class that today they are going to make the class into a Majlis meeting and pretend that we are working on creating a new law or changing an old one. Ask students for ideas of a new law they might want to come up with.

Assign roles to some students and carry out a similar process to depict what happens at the Parliament – Teacher can be the Speaker.

A Member of Parliament also known as the Sponsor of the Bill: reads out the new proposed idea or Bill to the Majlis.

The Speaker of the Majlis: asks the class if we should accept the Bill for further debate.

Whole class votes to see how many like the idea of the new Bill to accept it into Majlis to discuss.

The Speaker asks members to give their opinions about the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed Bill.

Discuss how it might be beneficial? If it might have any disadvantages? Who may be affected by this if it becomes a law, etc.)

3 or 4 members representing the **Parliamentary Committee**, note down the important

points discussed and try to make a decision about the issue. Write the decision and read out to the class.

The Speaker reads out the Bill one last time and asks the members for a final vote on whether they agree with the Bill or not.

When the majority votes in agreement, the Bill is given to the President, who signs it and displays it in the classroom (like it is published in the Gazette) . Now it has become Law.

Closure (5 minutes)

Ask the students what they learnt new from the lesson today.

Recap the ideas discussed throughout the class