

US-Mexico Border Project Board Game

Learning Objective:

A hands on activity to help students understand the challenging journey of crossing the US-Mexico border

Supplies:

- Material for board (i.e. foam core, cardboard, etc)
- Markers
- Game Pieces
- Dice/spinner

Steps:

- 1) Hold class discussion about why people cross the border. Ask students to brainstorm obstacles people encounter while crossing.
- 2) Divide students in groups
- 3) Provide each group with supplies for constructing board
- 4) Make list of both positive and negative situations that commonly occur in the process of crossing the border
- 5) Creates game spaces on board
- 6) Decorate board
- 7) Have fun!

References:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
<http://www.uscis.gov>

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think people immigrate to the US?
- Why do you think people leave their home country?
- Why do you think we have border security?
- What do you think are some obstacles with crossing the border?
- What do you think is the safest way to cross the border?
- Why do you think people cross illegally?
- How do you think the process of earning citizenship has changed over time?

Lesson Extension:

- Have students keep a journal, as if they were crossing the US-Mexico border.
- Create a two-person poem from the viewpoint of two different people about the same thing. Example: border agent and humanitarian group representative; or mother staying behind and son leaving; or coyote and migrant; etc
- Make a list of what you'd bring with you to move into a new country, a new life, and explain why you'd bring each item. Be specific.