

Special Education

Lobbying and Special Interest Groups for Middle & High School

11 day
lesson
plan

By Christa Joy



Lobbying and Special Interest Groups

Lesson Plan for High School

Preparation

- Print out a vocabulary board for each student to use throughout unit
 - Laminate or place in page protector
- Books
 - Print out, laminate, and bind
 - OR your students can listen to the pre-recorded version
- Vocabulary cards
 - Print out a set of cards onto cardstock and laminate
 - Make one set for each student and also one for the teacher to use in I Spy games

Preassessment (do day 1 before starting lesson)

- Choose the form of the assessment that best fits the learning level of your students
- Give the assessment to assess what your students may already know
- I cannot emphasize enough how important this step is. If you want to see growth, this preassessment is so important!!

Teaching Tips

1. *Color Coding:* this is a really easy way to add more structure to a matching activity. Outline or color in an empty box or sorting label. Outline or color in the corresponding picture symbols the same colors. Becomes a color matching task.
 - a. For more info, read more here: <https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2015/09/05/using-color-coding-for-differentiation/>
 - b. I also have a blog post on differentiating one activity 3 ways: <https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/10/22/differentiating-1-activity-3-ways-easily-and-effectively/>
2. *Make you own copies of the activities:* Every day I review the activity we did yesterday. For that reason:
 - a. I often complete the activity myself and often laminated it for easy review that I could use year after year.
 - b. My copies were also helpful as either a model for students who needed more support or as a way for more advanced students to self-check their

Quick Look

Day	Activity	Day	Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocab cards intro • Circle map 	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocab cards cut and paste • Sudoku puzzle
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocab cards activity • Circle map 	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocab cards cut and paste • Word Search
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocab cards activity • Sequencing activity 	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocab cards activity • Close worksheet
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocab cards activity • Sorting activity 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocab cards activity • Close Worksheet
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocab cards activity • Sorting Activity 	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocab cards activity • Writing prompt 		

Day 3

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read or listen to a recording of the book: (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read through the story, asking lots of questions • Continue to make connections between book and vocabulary board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book • Vocabulary board
Vocabulary cards I Spy Game (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I play this game see description on day 2 • Today, try to give clues about the card your student needs to find <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Read definition ◦ Show real photo that relates to card from book ◦ Describe the picture • Discuss relevant points on the card <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ You can also play this game in this manner having them find the symbol on their vocabulary board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary cards (student set and teacher set) • Vocabulary board
Circle map review (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the circle map completed yesterday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worksheet completed yesterday
Sequencing activity (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do the worksheet sequencing the lobbying process • Choose the best version depending on the learning level of your students (either using pictures or words) • Add color coding if needed • Students complete the worksheet • Make connections to the book as necessary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worksheet • Scissors • Glue
(minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each student shares their finished worksheet with the group using the communication method of their choice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed worksheets • Communication devices

Most ideas, bills, and even laws are a result of a lot of work, called **lobbying**, most often done by **special interest groups**.



Some special interest groups are **economic** interest groups. Their primary concern is to help businesses, professionals, labor industries, and the farming industry make as much money as possible.



There are **consumer** special interests groups that also serve the public interest. These groups are focused on making sure things that we buy are safe and will not cause harm.



40 page book

People who are interested in that new law, can try to help it get passed or blocked depending on how they feel about it.

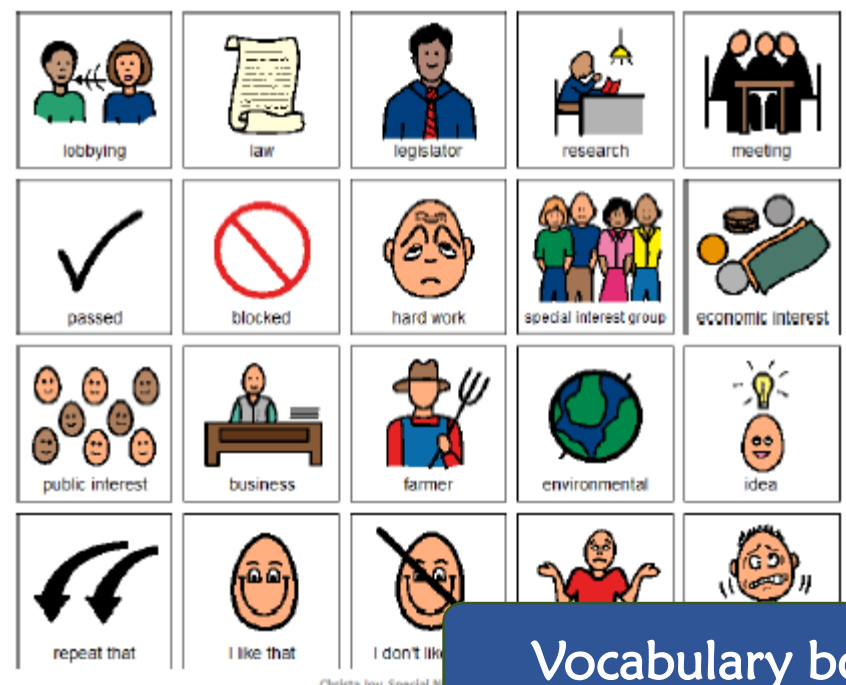


Next, are **labor** special interest groups. The members of this group are looking to help the individual workers rather than the business as a whole. They want their workers to be safe and be paid well.



Lobbying takes a lot of time, money, and sometimes even a fancy commercial in order to get noticed.









Vocabulary board





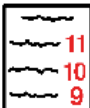

<p>professional</p> <p>Refers to job where people must have a license, like a doctor or lawyer.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>	<p>agricultural</p> <p>Dealing with farmers and farming.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>
<p>public interest</p> <p>Focused on the good of the general public and not individuals in the group.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>	<p>environmental</p> <p>Deals with the health of the Earth and conservation.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>

Cut & paste

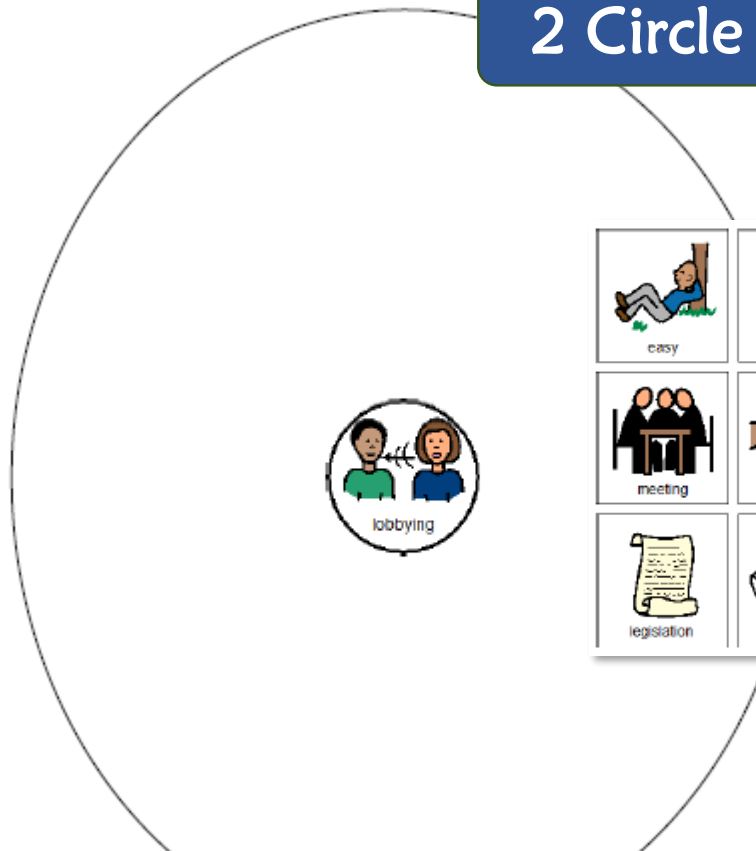
<p>lobbying</p> <p>Seeking to influence a politician to vote on a bill a certain way.</p> 	<p>special interest groups</p> <p>Group of people with shared interests who want to influence what bills becomes laws.</p> 
<p>legislation</p> <p>Law or bill being considered to be a law.</p> 	<p>legislator</p> <p>Person responsible for making the laws.</p> 

15 vocab cards

<p>Focused on the good of the general public and not individuals in the group.</p>
<p>Focused on making more money for the members of the group and who they represent.</p>
<p>Seeking to influence a politician to vote on a bill a certain way.</p>
<p>Doing what is best for the Earth and the environment.</p>

<p>economic interest</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 50px; width: 100%;"></div> 	<p>business</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 50px; width: 100%;"></div> 
<p>regulation</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 50px; width: 100%;"></div> 	<p>labor</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 50px; width: 100%;"></div> 

2 Circle maps



easy	idea	quick	research	tell your story
meeting	support	passed	sing	try again
legislation	nap	legislator	blocked	burp

2 sorting activities

labor interest groups	professional interest groups	environmental interest groups

Errorless versions

legislation	idea	legislator	research	tell your story
meeting	support	passed	blocked	try again

safe factories	ability to strike	American Dental Assoc	license
malpractice insurance	decrease pollution	safe machines	recycling
reasonable work hours	climate change	alternate forms of energy	test to take



The Lobbying Process

1	<input type="text"/>	5	<input type="text"/>
2	<input type="text"/>	6	<input type="text"/>
3	<input type="text"/>	7	<input type="text"/>

research	interesting legislation	thank you	contact leg
set up meeting	share information	ask for support	repeat and

Writing prompt

Dear Legislator,

I am writing to let you know about .

This is important to me because .

I have done a lot of research and learned .

It is so important we this.

The Lobbying Process

1	<input type="text"/>	
2	<input type="text"/>	Repeat the process
3	<input type="text"/>	Do some research
4	<input type="text"/>	Find legislation that interests you
5	<input type="text"/>	Share your facts and a story
6	<input type="text"/>	Set up a meeting
7	<input type="text"/>	Contact your legislator
8	<input type="text"/>	Send a thank you
		Ask for support

the environment	endangered animals	our city	our school	my idea	a problem
I love it	I want to help	too much pollution	it is too hot	it is too cold	there is too much trash
some exciting things	we can do something	we need to act fast	it is a huge problem	problems are increasing	a lot
talk about	do something about	look at	stop	help with	think about
meeting	talking with	calling	supporting	helping	working with

Sequencing activity (2 versions)

me?

name

Word search

Sudoku Puzzles









Answer Keys included

Special Interest Groups















R E G U L A T I O N E X G E S
 A G R I C U L T U R A L X N P
 I N E C O N O M I C T B A V F
 H E B M B L O B B Y I N G I B
 W R V F B V A C D G R S G R U
 U L E G I S L A T O R C V O S
 C O N S E R V A T I O N M N I
 Q D H L P G L A B O R Q U M N
 R B E L R P O P U B L I C E E
 E L L E G I S L A T I O N N S
 Y G I V U U Z T J C P P Q T S
 B Z O K H P R E E H C Y A A F
 P R O F E S S I O N A L U L B
 T I D E O L O G I C A L I A O
 C O N S U M E R W N R F K C F

LOBBYING LEGISLATION LEGISLATOR
 ECONOMIC BUSINESS REGULATION
 LABOR PROFESSIONAL AGRICULTURAL
 PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
 CONSUMER IDEOLOGICAL

Special Interest Groups

	 legislator	 special interest	
		 legislator	 legislation
 legislator	 legislation		 special interest
			

Special Interest Groups

	 legislator	 legislation			
 public interest	 lobby				 legislation
 lobby	 legislation	 legislator	 economic interest		
 economic interest	 special interest		 lobby		 legislator
					 economic interest

 lobby	 lobby	 lobby	 special interest
 special interest	 legislation	 legislation	 legislator

 lobby	 lobby	 special interest	 special interest	 special interest	 public interest
 special interest	 economic interest	 economic interest	 economic interest	 public interest	 public interest
 public interest	 public interest	 legislation	 legislation	 legislator	 legislator

4 Close worksheets

Assessments 3 versions

Lobbying

1. Lobbying is used to get new passed.

2. Lobbying attention to a specific cause.

3. When you want to lobby a bill, you contact your .

4. It is important to the subject to know all you can about it.

5. If you add your own when you talk with your legislator, it will help.

1. One way to influence what bills become laws is through:



2. Who do you contact if you want a bill supported?



3. Most lobbying is done by:



4. Special interest groups most concerned with making their members more money are:



5. These special interest groups are concerned about improving things for the entire general public, not just their members.



7. Who would be represented by an agricultural interest group?

- A. factory workers
- B. dentists
- C. farmers

8. Environmental interest groups are concerned about the:

- A. environmental
- B. factories
- C. doctor

9. Ideological interest groups are usually focused on how many ideas?

- A. a lot
- B. 10
- C. 1

10. True or False. Most bills that are lobbied for become laws.

- A. true
- B. false
- C. I don't know

Q3



kids



special interest groups



athletes

Q4



economic groups



environmental groups



ideological groups

Lobbying (page 1)



story



increases



legislation



legislator



research