**Principles of Democracy in The News**

In this lesson, students select recent news article headlines that reflect the application of the principles of democracy. This activity compliments the Principles of Democracy Activities from Deliberating in a Democracy materials. http://www.dda.deliberating.org/

**Minnesota Social Studies Standards Benchmarks**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 9.1.1.1.1 | Demonstrate skills that enable people to monitor and influence state, local and national affairs.  |
| 9.1.2.3.3 | Define and provide examples of foundational ideas of American government which are embedded in founding era documents: natural rights philosophy, social contract, civic virtue, popular sovereignty, constitutionalism, representative democracy, political factions, federalism and individual rights.  |

**Ways to use headlines**

* Hang the DDA Principles of Democracy posters (http://www.dda.deliberating.org/) around the classroom and provide each student with a headline strip (cut out ahead of time). Each student reads headline aloud and picks the "best" principle match (explains) and then stands next to principle poster
* Students work in small groups to categorize headlines (either all or some) and discuss
* As a pre/ formative/ summative assessment

**Headlines and Suggested Principles are available at www.teachingcivics.org**

**http://teachingcivics.org/?p=5115**

**Teachers Guide**

**As Obama Vows to Act on Climate Change, Justices Weigh His Approach**

The New York Times 2/19/2014

*Independent judiciary; rule of law; control of the abuse of power*

**In Many Public Schools, the Paddle is No Relic**

The New York Times 9/30/2006

*Control of the abuse of power; human rights*

**Students tap MN program that offers college credit for free**

KARE 11 2/21/2013

*Economic freedom*

**Independent candidates to highlight new top-two election system**

Los Angeles Times 4/19/2012

*Multi-party systems*

**Border agent shoots and kills alleged rock-thrower. Excessive force?**

The Christian Science Monitor 2/19/2014

*Control of the abuse of power; accountability; rule of law; transparency*

**Minimum Wage Debate Heats Up At State Capitol**

CBS Minnesota 2/6/2014

*Economic freedom; multi-party systems*

**Congress Keeps Working As Debt Ceiling Deadline Nears**

NPR 10/16/2013

*Economic freedom; accountability*

**The Federal Deficit Is Actually Shrinking**

NPR 5/1/2013

*Economic freedom*

**The 25 US High Schools With The Highest Standardized Test Score**
Business Insider 1/21/2014

*Accountability; transparency*

**Bills strengthen campaign finance reporting laws**

Pioneer Press 2/20/2014

*Regular free and fair elections; transparency*

**Government resists altering money for blind people**

CNN.com 12/12/2006

*Equality; human rights*

**Data Show Racial Disparity in Crack Sentencing**

U.S. News & World Report 8/3/2010

*Equality; human rights*

**New rule will spread jury service among more Utahns**

Desert News 12/28/2013

*Citizen participation*

**Kansas Board Officially Puts End to Obama Ballot Challenge**

The Caucus 9/18/2012

*Accepting the results of elections; political tolerance*

**Norm Coleman concedes Minnesota Senate race to Al Franken**

POLITICO 6/30/2009

*Accepting the results of elections; multi-party systems*

**Homeless couple sues Missouri town for asking them to leave**

Reuters 12/17/2013

*Human rights; equality; accountability*

**Independence Party's role in Minnesota 2014 governor's race: TBD**

Pioneer Press 6/16/2013

*Multi-party systems; political tolerance*

**9/11 trial: Any mention of torture is classified, military judge rules**

The Christian Science Monitor 12/12/2012

*Human rights; transparency; accountability; control of the abuse of power; Bill of Rights; rule of law*

**Bloodshed Puts New Focus on Vitriol in Politics**

The New York Times January 8, 2011

*Political tolerance; accountability; multi-party systems; Bill of Rights*

**Police officer charged in fatal shooting of unarmed man who had just survived car accident**

Yahoo News 9/15/2013

*Rule of law; control of the abuse of power; accountability*

**Minnesota judges face new financial disclosure requirements**

Star Tribune 12/16/2013

*Independent judiciary; transparency; control of the abuse of power; regular free and fair elections; Bill of Rights*

**Why Miami’s Civic Health is Lowest in Nation – And the Twin Cities is Tops**

National Conference on Citizenship (NCOC) 1/24/2011

*Citizen participation*

**Federal Judge Overturns Virginia’s Same-Sex Marriage Ban**

The New York Times 2/14/2014

*Independent judiciary; human rights; control of the abuse of power*

**Civilian Deaths in Drone Strikes Cited in Report**

The New York Times 10/22/2013

*Rule of law; transparency; human rights; accountability; control of the abuse of power; Bill of Rights*

**Independence: Jesse Ventura says he’d run for president as a member of no political party**

The Washington Times 1/30/2014

*Multi-party systems; citizen participation*

**The Hidden history of the CIA’s prison in Poland**

The Washington Post 1/23/2014

*Human rights; transparency; rule of law; accountability; control of the abuse of power; Bill of Rights*

**Report: Deadly drone strike in Yemen failed to comply with Obama’s rules to protect civilians**

The Washington Post 2/19/2014

*Rule of law; control of the abuse of power; transparency; accountability; human rights*

**Court: Is anonymous tip enough for traffic stop?**

Associated Press 10/1/2013

*Rule of law; control of the abuse of power*

**Ramsey County commissioners give themselves 2% pay raise to $84K**

MINNPOST 6/23/2010

*transparency*

**Clean Water Amendment funds to be utilized for carp barriers**

The Forest Lake Times 2/12/2014

*Transparency; accountability*

**Presidential Debate Drew More Than 70 Million Viewers**

The New York Times 10/4/2012

*Citizen participation; transparency*

**The Winner in Bush v. Gore?**

**It's Chief Justice Rehnquist, who runs the most trusted institution in the U.S.**

TIME Magazine 12/18/2000

*Independent judiciary; accepting the results of elections; multi-party systems*

**What?? Congressional approval rating inches upward**

The Christian Science Monitor 2/22/2014

*accountability*

**E-mails reveal general's attempt to ban Marine newspaper**

USA TODAY 2/24/2014

*Control of the abuse of power; transparency; Bill of Rights*

**Minnesota's chance to lead on Great Lakes cleanup**

Star Tribune 8/17/2013

*accountability*

**Thousands pack final public hearing for PolyMet copper-nickel mine proposal**

MPR 1/29/2014

*Citizen participation; transparency*

**Releasing 911 Sandy Hook Tapes Retraumatizes Newtown**

TIME Magazine 12/5/2013

*Bill of Rights; transparency*

**Minnesota Supreme Court / Rules broadened for drug dog use**

Pioneer Press 6/7/2007

*Independent judiciary; Bill of Rights*

**Young people protest for gun rights in front of D.C. city hall**

The Washington Times 8/17/2012

*Citizen participation; Bill of Rights*

**Obama looks to governors for help with economy**

The Washington Post 2/24/2014

*Accountability; economic freedom*

(For reference: [http://www.dda.deliberating.org/images/pdf/principlesofdemocracyhandout.pdf](https://owa.isd623.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=9bYK0wUntUKxA10bJWiO2QrHKlIABdEIm2FocxpNMVP49Q1TNMLsBjg__R9sjm8_TeJvVzHRwKo.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.dda.deliberating.org%2fimages%2fpdf%2fprinciplesofdemocracyhandout.pdf))

**Principles of Democracy Headlines Student Handout**

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