

Activity: A Day in the Life of an MP Teacher Information Sheet

Each Member of Parliament works to represent and support the people in their electorate. There are always many demands on their time.

In this activity, students explore the role of a Member of Parliament by considering a range of tasks a Member may undertake on a non-sitting day. Students evaluate each activity option, prioritise and make decisions in order to produce a schedule for a day in the life of a Member of Parliament.



DURATION
1 to 2 lessons



LEVEL
Years 5 to 10

Before

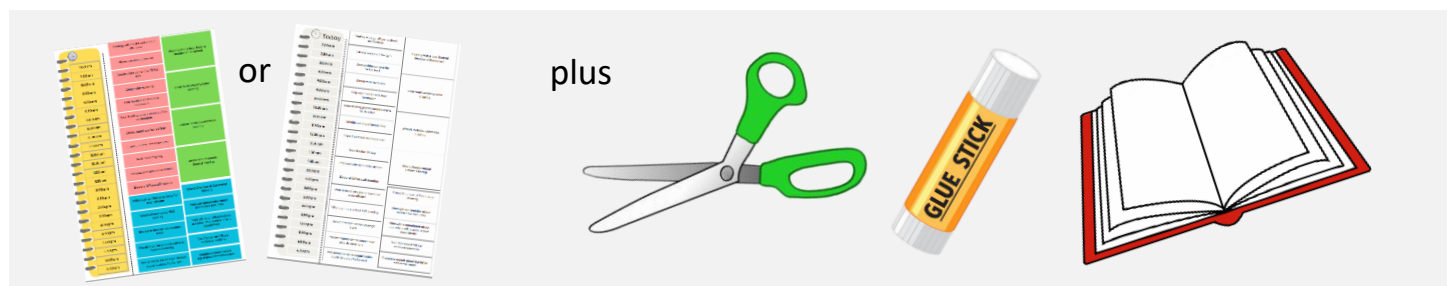
Investigate the role of a Member of Parliament

- Find your school's State electorate on the [ECQ website](#). Then identify your MP from the [Member List](#).
- Explore the MP's Electorate Office website and discuss what kinds of activities they may undertake to support and represent the people in their electorate.
- Contact your local State Member of Parliament to arrange a classroom visit, preferably after undertaking the following student activity.
- Read the [MP's bio](#) to find out more about them before their visit and generate some questions to ask them.

Additional Resources

- Factsheet – [The Role of a Member of Parliament](#)
- Factsheet – [The Role of an Independent Member of Parliament](#)

Prepare activity materials



- This activity can be undertaken by individual students or small groups.
- Print one worksheet (available in either [colour](#) or [black and white](#)), for each student or group of students. A3 paper is recommended for groups.

During

Instructions for students

1. Cut the timesheet off in one piece along the dotted line.
2. Cut out each activity slip. You will have 25 activity slips in total:
 - 11 pink / short activities
 - 4 green / long activities, and
 - 10 blue / medium duration activities
3. Discuss each activity option and group them in order of priority / urgency / importance.
4. Consider which activities must be scheduled at a fixed time and which are movable.
5. Decide which activities are the most urgent and important. Choose which time of day to schedule these.
6. Place the timesheet down the left hand side of your workspace. Place each activity slip against a particular time slot, to form a daily calendar schedule.
7. Show a friend your completed schedule. Tell them why you selected these tasks.



Encourage differing opinions.
Prompt students to justify their points of view.
There is no one right answer!

Students may glue the timesheet and slips in place in a workbook.
Or you may ask them to photograph their completed schedule so the pieces can be reused.

After

Reflection

- Display completed daily schedules. As a class, compare and contrast results.
- Discuss what activities were prioritised and why.
- Talk about what might happen if an MP puts off the tasks that were not included.

Extension idea

- Consider combining resources to schedule an entire week in an MP's life. Which activities may need scheduling more than once in a week / every day?
- Invite your local [State Member of Parliament](#) to talk to the class about their role as an MP, describe a typical day in their working life and offer feedback on students' activity responses.