



# Session 1: Watch and learn about voting

## You will need

Access to a screen/laptop/computer connected to the Internet.

## Activity

Introduce the topic of voting by watching [Voting is for Everyone](#).

Youtube link <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H8ISaEn95mg>

This video produced by the Victorian Electoral Commission shows people with a disability discussing and participating in voting. The video runs for 18 minutes.

## Group discussion

1. What was the video about? What is voting?

**Key Idea:** This video is about voting. Voting is a way that a group of people can make a decision together. In Australia, the people vote to choose who will represent us in parliament. The people voted into parliament then make laws and decisions to run the country.

2. What was important to remember from the video?

**Key Idea:** Everyone can vote it is not hard to do.

3. How does voting affect our lives?

**Key Idea:** Every vote is important and can make a difference. Our representatives are chosen by the people through voting, It is your chance to decide who you want to represent you. When we are voting we are making important decisions about important things that affect our daily lives like public transport, finances and education.

4. If you can't fill out a ballot paper, does that mean you can't vote?

**Key Idea:** You can ask someone to help you to vote. You don't miss out on your chance to vote if you need extra help.

5. When is the next election that you can vote in?

**Key Idea:** The next federal election will occur on Saturday 7 September 2013. For information about when your next state or local election is you will need to check the electoral commission website for your state or territory.

## Notes for facilitator

Research the dates for upcoming federal, state and local elections. Information about federal elections can be found at [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au)

For more information about State and Local elections look on the website of the electoral commission for your state or territory.