Zero to Three: Strolling Thunder Reading List
A reading list to prepare children 0-12 for a visit to Washington, D.C. and talk with them about how the U.S government works

Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSC’s Quicklists Consulting Committee. For more booklists, please visit www.ala.org/alsc/booklists.

AGES 0-5

*Amelia Bedelia’s First Vote*
By Herman Paris; Illus. by Lynne Avril
Greenwillow Books, 2012. 9780062094056
Amelia Bedelia learns about elections and voting through her school’s election day.

*Duck for President*
By Doreen Cronin; Illus. by Betsy Lewin
Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2004. 9780689863776
Duck decides to run for president, but he has to convince all the farm animals he is the best duck for the job first. A funny and engaging story to learn about the electoral process in our country.

*If You’re Going to a March*
By Martha Freeman; Illus. by Violet Kim
Sterling Children’s Books, 2018. 9781454929932
This book explains to children why people have marches and what to expect when participating in one.

*One Vote, Two Votes, I Vote, You Vote*
By Bonnie Worth; Illus. by Aristides Ruiz
Random House Books for Young Readers, 2016. 9780399555985
In simple rhyme, Cat in the Hat introduces the basic principles of democracy, how political parties are formed, why Election Day is in November, and more!

*Pedro for President*
By Fran Manushkin; Illus. by Tammie Lyon
Picture Window, 2017. 9781515800910

*Pedro, candidato a presidente*
Picture Window, 2018. 9781515825081
Running for class president against his friend Katie Woo, Pedro learns that vowing to help others is the best campaign promise he can make.

*This Little President*
By Joan Holub; Illus. by Daniel Roode
Little Simon, 2016. 9781481458504
Bright and cheerful illustrations introduce the basics of the office of the President to the youngest readers, along with profiles of ten presidents.
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**This Little Trailblazer**
By Joan Holub; Illus. by Daniel Roode
Little Simon, 2017. 9781534401068
This collection of colorful portraits of influential women who changed history includes a few government stars.

**What Can a Citizen Do?**
By Dave Eggers; Illus. by Shawn Harris
Chronicle Books, 2018. 9781452173139
This is a book for today's youngest readers about what it means to be a citizen.

**AGES 6-12:**

**The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora**
By Pablo Cartaya
Penguin Young Readers Group, Viking, 2017. 9781101997239
A real estate developer is looking to purchase property and convert it into a luxury building, but Arturo, his family, and neighbors raise their voices to deter the gentrification of their community.
A heartfelt and funny middle grade title that explores activism on a local level.

**Fly Guy Presents: The White House**
By Tedd Arnold; ; Illus. by the author
Scholastic, 2016. 9780545917377
Fly Guy and Buzz take readers on an informative and hilarious field trip to the White House to learn about the presidents and their famous home.

**Grace for President**
By Kelly DiPucchio; Illus. by LeUyen Pham
Grace finds out that a woman has never been president and decides to launch a campaign, beginning in her elementary school. A fun and engaging way to learn about the electoral process.

**I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark**
By Debby Levy; Illus. by Elizabeth Baddeley
Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2016. 9781481465595
This biographical picture book tells the justice’s story through the lens of her many famous disagreements.

**Imogene’s Last Stand**
By Candace Fleming; Illus. by Nancy Carpenter
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Schwartz & Wade, 2009. 9780375836077
An energetic history buff takes on an issue of historical significance in her hometown. Readers can learn about the democratic process while also getting a glimpse into the history of our nation.

A Kids’ Guide to America’s Bill of Rights: Curfews, Censorship and the 100-Pound Giant
By Kathleen Krull; Illus. by Anna Divito
Harper, 2015. 9780062352316
Fun facts, illustrations and anecdotes show how each of the ten rights apply to today’s children and teens in an updated edition of classic work.

Let’s Vote! A Fruitful Election Tale
By Anita Iaco; Illus. by Chiara Civati
Mascot Books, 2016. 9781631777325
A classroom lesson teaches students the process of campaigning and voting.

President Squid
By Aaron Reynolds; Illus. by Sara Varon
Squid knows about being president. You live in a big house, wear a tie, and do all the talking. What he doesn’t know and quickly finds out, is how much work it takes.

Shh! We’re Writing the Constitution
By Jean Fritz; Illus. by Tomie dePaola
Penguin Young Readers Group/ Putnam, 1997. 9780698116245
Fritz’s engaging prose and dePaola’s quirky illustrations bring to life the events and personalities that forged a new nation.

Vote!
By Eileen Christelow; Illus. by the author
Clarion, 2018. 9781328499226
Canine campaigners Elmer and Sparky give young readers the dog’s-eye view of a mayoral election race.

What’s the Big Deal About Elections?
By Ruby Shamir; Illus. by Matt Faulkner
Philomel, 2018. 9781524738075
From local school boards to national elections, discover the how, when and why we vote.
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What Is the Declaration of Independence?
By Michael C. Harris; Illus. by Jerry Hoare
Penguin Workshop, 2016. 9780399542305
Discover the true story of one of the most radical and uplifting documents in history and follow the action that fueled the Revolutionary War.

What Is the Constitution?
By Patricia Brennan Demuth; Illus. by Tim Foley
Penguin Workshop, 2018. 9781524786113
This book gives readers a behind-the-scenes look at how this blueprint for the government of The United States was created.

When You Grow Up to Vote: How Our Government Works for You
By Eleanor Roosevelt, with Michelle Markel; Illus. by Grace Lin
Roaring Brook Press, 2018. 9781626728790
Beginning with firefighters and garbage collectors and moving up through local to national government offices, this book explains how the people in government work for the voter.