



## Activity 2.2.2 Call on Me

### Purpose

Parliamentary procedures are used to govern many meetings and group organizations. They were established in the mid 1500's to establish a method to disagree with the king of England without risk of beheading. Many governments and parliaments use parliamentary procedures today.

Using parliamentary procedures solves many problems that arise when working in a group, such as maintaining order and focusing discussion on one topic at a time. Additionally, parliamentary procedures allow everyone to express their opinion and protect the rights of the minority opinion while still making decisions based on the majority. Your knowledge and application of these procedures will be useful throughout your life.

### Materials

**Per group of four students:**

- 3 note cards
- 3 *Call on Me* cards
- Pencil
- *Agriscience Notebook*

### Procedure

In this activity, you will demonstrate common parliamentary procedures by discussing topics and making a main motion or amendment.

#### Part One – Determining Topics

1. Before debating and making motions, you must first have topics to discuss. Brainstorm three topics that you feel are important to address. They can be issues or concerns in agriculture, the world, your school, or even based on the rights and regulations imposed on teens.
2. Write your topics down on the note cards provided. Use a separate card for each topic
3. Write a proper motion for each of your topics in Table 1. Remember a main motion must be a complete sentence and start with the words "I move".
4. Hand your note cards to your teacher for use in Part Two.

**Table 1. Main Motions**

Topic	Motion
Wearing Hats in School	I move wearing Hats in School because I don't think that they are a distraction in class.
Football to Cornell's Field	I move football to Cornell's field because they have a better and nicer field to use and I'd like to use a field like that.
Better Lunches	I move better lunches so then we can have more options and we could have better options.



## Part Two – Debating the Issues

Your teacher will facilitate a debate using the topics you and your classmates submitted.

### **General Rules:**

- Always receive recognition from the chairperson before making a motion or debate.
  - Remember to start a motion or amendment with “I move”.
  - If you make a motion, you MUST be the first person to discuss the motion.
1. Your teacher will provide you with three *Call on Me* cards.
  2. Review your cards. In the course of the discussion, you will have the opportunity to play each of these cards by performing the task on the card.
  3. Write your name on the back of each card.
  4. Your teacher will draw a topic from the note cards you and your classmates submitted.
  5. After reading the topic, your teacher will ask for a main motion. If you have a main motion card, you may stand and ask for recognition.
    - If the topic is one that you wrote, use the motions above that you drafted.
    - If the topic is from a classmate, determine an appropriate motion to make.
  6. After a motion is made, debate will follow.
  7. Play all of the cards in your hand by properly executing the parliamentary procedure skills listed.
  8. You may continue debating once all of your cards are played to enable all students to participate.

## Conclusion

1. What is the purpose of a main motion?

To try to move a motion to get your point across or heard.

2. When is an amendment useful?

When saying a statement to go along with a motion.

3. Why is it important to allow debate?

So then both sides get a chance to speak and get to say what they want other people to hear.

4. Why are parliamentary procedures useful when conducting or participating in meetings?

So then more than one person gets to speak.