



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

- 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.
- Write your topics down on the note cards provided. Use a separate card for each topic
- 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”.
- Hand your note cards to your teacher for use in Part Two.

Table 1. Main Motions

Topic	Motion
Better lunches	I move to have better school lunches.
Early out every week	I move to have an early out every week.
Bigger parking lot	I move to have a bigger school parking lot.

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 present a topic to a group.

2. When is an amendment useful?

To change or add to a motion, it is useful when there is a big group.

3. Why is it important to allow debate?

So everyone can get a chance to state their opinion.

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

You can stay organized.