



Florida League of Cities

Cookies with the Mayor/Commissioner/ Council Member

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OVERVIEW

Cookies with the Mayor/Commissioner/Council Member (or a like event) is a great way to introduce yourself, as an elected official, to students and provide a lesson on city government.

YOUR ROLE

Make yourself available to talk with students and answer their questions. During this time, provide an overview of city government and how it affects its youngest residents.

RESOURCES

- Cookies (or other snack)

PREPARATION

- Work with your local teacher(s) to determine the best time to visit.
- Account for the number of students in attendance, the age of the students and their prior knowledge of city government.
- Prepare a short overview of how city government works and be prepared to answer questions.
- Bring cookies. *Speak with the teacher(s) about the student's dietary needs prior to bringing food into the classroom.*

PROCEDURE

- Introduce yourself and allow the students to grab a cookie.
- Begin by asking students if they have any prior knowledge of how city government works.

Be prepared to explain aspects such as:

- The roles of an elected official and appointed positions.
- Your city's organizational structure.
- Budget.
- Types of issues with which the council deals.
- Municipal departments and how they affect citizens' lives.