

Secondary

Debate about a current issue with another class in a different state/country

Grades: 7th -12th

In this lesson plan, students will participate in a class debate about a current issue in society with another class in a different state/ country using TinyChat to create a chat room.

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students should gain a deeper understanding of both sides of a hot topic in society• Students should be able to verbally state their side of the issue and provide evidence to back it up
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher needs: Computers with internet access• Student needs: Research on whichever side of the issue they are on, should be finished before conducting the debate
Note to teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assign your class either the pro or con side of a current issue in the world• Collaborate with the teacher you are working with in another state/country so that class has the opposite view.
Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get one computer in the classroom connected to Tiny chat so that your class and the one you are communicating with in another state/country can have a chat room set up to debate.• To adapt this lesson, you could have each student at a computer and set of their own chat room, to debate with just one other student instead of a class-to-class debate• Explain the rules and regulations for the debate• Let your class start first and give them a time limit to state their position on the predetermined topic, and present their evidence• Have the guest classroom state their position and evidence• Play mediator when necessary and be prepared to pose questions to get discussion going if needed
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• After the debate, have the students in your class, write what they learned and didn't know about the previous side before the debate.• Also have them write why they think it might be important to understand and discuss both sides of an issue before forming an opinion, or judging someone else for their beliefs