



## ROLE PLAY KIT – FOR TEACHERS

Thank you for being part of this innovative program that teaches students about the basic principles of democracy and parliamentary processes.

Students will play the parts of government, opposition and independent members as well as parliamentary officers in a chamber setting. The students will decide on an issue to debate as a class, write their own speeches, perform the debate and take a vote on the bill. Throughout the parliamentary session, all 'members' will be required to conform to parliamentary etiquette that mirrors the real Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory.

**You do not need to do anything to prepare the students or classroom for the role play.** We bring all the materials, costumes and props that we use, and setting up the classroom is part of explaining the layout of the chamber to students. However, we do start the program by showing a PowerPoint presentation and so will need your assistance to show this in the classroom. We only bring a USB and will not have our own laptop.

One thing you may like to think about in preparation is to identify which students would be the most suitable for the major and minor roles of the role play. Every student will have a role to play and will be required to speak at some stage of the role play. Attached is a list roles that the students will be playing and some suggestions of student suitability. You may advise students ahead of time of their role, although most teachers just decide on the day.

During our visit it is expected that a teacher will be with the class at all times, and they are responsible for the behaviour of the students. Parliamentary Education staff will not undertake any classroom management during their visit.

Also attached below are the scripts that we use in the role plays. These are for your **perusal only and you are not required to print them off or distribute them to students.** During the role play we will provide copies of the scripts for the relevant students as well as the papers required for students to write their debate speeches, however, please note we do not provide pencils or pens for this activity.

Please contact us if you require further information. We always appreciate feedback and welcome any suggestions on improving our programs. Following the role play we will send you an email with a link to an online survey monkey feedback form.

Thank you for your assistance and I hope you enjoy the show!

<b>ROLE</b>	<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>
<b>SPEAKER</b>	The Speaker is to keep order in Parliament. This role has a script so the student should be comfortable reading on cue at a good volume, but unlike the members, the Speaker does not have to write their own speech.
<b>CLERK</b>	The Clerk will be reading the title and approx. a one sentence description of the bill. This is a minor speaking role and would suit students who are reluctant to address the class. The Clerk does not have to write a speech.
<b>DEPUTY CLERK</b>	The Deputy Clerk will be reading the Standing Orders of Parliament. It is quite a long script so the student should be fairly comfortable reading aloud at a good volume. The Deputy Clerk does not have to write a speech.
<b>SERJEANT-AT-ARMS</b>	The Serjeant-at-Arms carries the mace into Parliament and announces the Speaker as he/she enters the Chamber. This is the smallest speaking role and would suit a student who is reluctant to address the class. There is a great costume for the Serjeant-at-Arms to dress up in and they do not have to write a speech.
<b>CHIEF MINISTER</b>	The Chief Minister has a small script to read out in addition to the speech they will be required to write. The Chief Minister will open the debate and read their speech first so needs to be quite confident in addressing the class.
<b>GOVERNMENT MEMBERS</b>	All government members are required to write their own speech and read it aloud to the class. There must be more government members than opposition members. They must vote with the government.
<b>LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION</b>	The Leader of the Opposition has a very small additional script to read, along with their own written speech. They will be the first on the opposition side to speak.
<b>OPPOSITION MEMBERS</b>	All opposition members are required to write their own speech and read it aloud to the class. They must vote with the opposition.
<b>INDEPENDENT MEMBERS</b>	There may be one or two independent members. They will need to write their own speech, but can choose which side they will support.



**GOVERNMENT MEMBER SPEECH**

Thank you Madam/Mr Speaker. I support this bill because

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**OPPOSITION MEMBER SPEECH**

Thank you Madam/Mr Speaker. I do not support this bill because

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## SPEAKER'S SCRIPT



*The Serjeant-at-Arms will escort you into the Parliament. When you get to your desk, nod to both sides then say:*

**Members, please be seated.**

*You sit down. Now say:*

**Parliament is now in session.  
Deputy Clerk, please read the Standing Orders of the Chamber.**

*When Deputy Clerk sits down say:*

**Clerk, please read the Bill.**

*When the Clerk sits down you say:*

**I now call on the Chief Minister to introduce the Bill.**

*The Chief Minister will stand. The Chief Minister will introduce the Bill and read their speech. When they sit down you say:*

**I now call on the Leader of the Opposition.**

*The Leader of the opposition will stand and make his/her speech.*

**Any member who would like to speak further on this Bill, please stand.**

*Choose the member who stands first by saying.*

**I call the Member for \_\_\_\_\_**  
<Say the first name of the student here>

*After all willing members read their speeches, you say:*

**I call the Chief Minister again.**

*The Chief Minister will read their script.*



*When Chief Minister sits down you say:*

**Members of Parliament, the question is that the bill be read a third time. Those who agree say 'Aye'**

*Wait for Members to say 'Aye'*

**Those who disagree say 'No'**

*Wait for Members to say 'No'*

**I think the Ayes/Noes have it. (Choose the one said loudest)**

*The Leader of the Opposition will call for a division*

**Division is required. Deputy Clerk, please ring the bells.**

**Ayes move to the right of the Chamber and Noes move to the left of the Chamber.**

*Once the members have divided, you say:*

**Whips, please count the votes and report to the Clerks.**

*Record the results from the Clerks in the correct spaces below:*

**Members, please be seated. (wait for everyone to sit)**

**Results of the division:**

**The number of votes FOR the Bill is \_\_\_\_\_**

**The number of votes AGAINST the Bill is \_\_\_\_\_**

**The Bill has/has not passed. (Choose side with most votes)**

*If the bill has passed, then say:*

**Clerk, please read the Bill.**

*To finish:*

**Thank you members, parliament is now adjourned.**

## CHIEF MINISTER'S SCRIPT



*You will be the first member to speak in the debate. When the Speaker tells you, stand up and begin your speech like this:*

**Thank you Madam / Mr Speaker,**

**I am pleased to introduce the \_\_\_\_\_  
Bill to the Parliament today.**

*Say your speech*

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*After all the other Members have spoken, the Speaker will call on you again and you say:*

**Thank you Madam / Mr Speaker,**

**I am pleased we have discussed this bill and thank all those who have spoken here today. I hope all Members will support this important bill.**

**I move that the bill be now read a third time.**

## LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION'S SCRIPT



*After the Ayes and Nos have been said and the Speaker has said “I think the Ayes have it”,*

*Stand up and say:*

*(You don't have to wait for the Speaker to give you permission to speak)*

**Point of Order Madam / Mr Speaker!**

**I would like to call for a division.**

## STANDING ORDERS



### **Order 1:**

*Members can only speak when the Speaker calls on them.*

### **Order 2:**

*If members wish to speak, they must stand and wait for the Speaker to call on them. If someone else is chosen, they must sit down and wait for the next chance to stand.*

### **Order 3:**

*All members must show respect to each other.*

### **Order 4:**

*Unnecessary yelling and other bad behaviour will not be allowed in the Chamber.*

### **Order 5:**

*The Speaker will warn any members not behaving correctly and there is only one warning. If there is further bad behaviour, the Speaker can send that member out of the Chamber.*



## SERJEANT-AT-ARMS' SCRIPT



*You will walk into the Chamber carrying the mace with the Speaker and Clerks behind you. When you get to where the desks start, you say:*

***Honourable Members***

***Madam / Mister Speaker***

*Then walk to the table. Stand and hold the mace on your shoulder until the Speaker says “sit down”. Then you put the mace on the table.*

*Walk to your seat and sit down.*

*You may be required during the debate to remove members who have been sent out of the Chamber by the Speaker for bad behaviour.*



Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory

**Bill 2017**

**Part 1**

**Short Title:**

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**Part 2**

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