US/AZ Government
Party Platforms

Purpose:
You will construct a chart of political parties and their stance on three different planks. Once the chart is completed, you will evaluate the parties based on the information in the chart and determine which best fits your values.

Materials:
Internet
Telephone
Word processing program

Vocabulary:
Party
Platform
Plank

Procedure:
Select three planks from the following list: education, welfare, defense/military, taxes. The planks *must be the same* for all the political parties.

Select five political parties. The parties may be the five shown above or search the Internet for other parties using a search engine such as www.google.com.

Once you have selected the five parties, visit the parties web sites.

At the parties web site, search the site for the parties view on the three planks you have selected. If there is no information available on the web site, contact the party by phone and ask them to explain their stance on the plank you could not find.

Product:
The final product will include the chart that is shown on the other side. The chart needs to be completed fully to receive credit. The project needs to include an opinion section of what party best suits you and why. Give examples of why that party fits you and give examples of why the other parties do not fit.

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Here is an example of the chart:

Party	Education	Welfare	Taxes
Democrats	Here is where you explain the stance of the party.		You may find other planks, but they need to be the same for all parties.
Green Party			
Communist		All of the chart needs to be completed for full credit.	
Reform Party			There are more than the five parties listed, search for your own.
Republican	If unable to find information on web, call party office.		