

Parli Pro Trail Mix

The goal of this activity is to teach parliamentary procedure in an active way. Members will make a trail mix by making and passing motions in correct parliamentary order.

For this activity you will need different items which can be put into a trail mix. You will also want to include one or two items that might cause debate (such as peanuts) in order to provide a lively discussion.

Instructions: First explain what parliamentary procedure is, and its importance. Then explain what the activity is and that you will be making a trail mix by passing proper motions. Explain how a proper motion is to be made. (Motion, second, discussion, vote, pass or fail)

To do the activity, first a motion must be initiated. (I move to add two cups of chex cereal). From there, a second is needed. (I second). Discussion follows. The motion maker discusses why it would be a good idea first. (We should add two cups of chex cereal because it would add some crunch to the trail mix). Next more debate follows both in favor and against. Once discussion is done, the chairperson states the motion, and leads the vote. (All those in favor of adding two cups of chex cereal say aye, all opposed say no). Finish by stating whether the motion passes or fails. (The motion passes).

To enhance the depth of the activity, you can also allow for the making of amendments. In this case, you make and debate a motion, and then someone moves to amend the motion. (I move to amend the main motion by striking the word two and inserting the word three so that the motion would read to add three cups of chex cereal) after a second, the amendment is debated as a normal motion is (We should amend the motion because there are a lot of people who will be eating the trail mix, and this will provide more food), and then it is voted upon. (all those in favor of amending the motion by striking the word two and inserting the word three so that the motion would read to add three cups of chex to the trail mix signify by saying aye, all opposed say no). The amendment is either passed or failed (The amendment passes). Finally, the new motion must be voted on. (All those in favor of adding three cups of chex cereal to the trail mix signify by saying aye, all opposed say no). And finally state whether or not the motion passes. (The motion passes).

