Pnyx for teachers

Pnyx asks one question about American politics each day and shows how people answered. Every number comes with the count behind it, and every rule we use to show a number is written down on our methodology page (www.thepnyxapp.com/methodology). It is free, has no ads, and does not track anyone.

What a class can do with it

Read a real result, and ask what it can and cannot tell you. Each question shows how Pnyx members answered and how many answered. That count is printed beside every percentage on purpose: “62% of 40 people” and “62% of 4,000 people” are different claims, and noticing the difference is the lesson.

Talk about who answered. Pnyx results reflect the people who use Pnyx, not a representative sample of the country. Our methodology page explains what that means in plain language, and why we do not adjust the numbers to look like the country. It makes a good starting point for a discussion about polls in the news.

Look things up. Most civics terms we use have their own page with a short, plain definition.

Follow a bill. Our How a bill becomes law (www.thepnyxapp.com/how-a-bill-becomes-law) page walks through every step.

Ages and accounts

Nobody needs an account to read a shared result. Today’s question, shared results and our methodology page are open to everyone.

Students 13 and over can create an account to answer questions themselves. We do not allow accounts for anyone under 13.

Discussion rooms are for ages 16 and over, checked against the date of birth on the account.

We do not sell data, show ads or use tracking. Our privacy page (www.thepnyxapp.com/privacy.html) has the details.

What Pnyx is not

Pnyx is not a scientific poll and does not claim to be one. We do not tell anyone what to think, and we do not write summaries of political arguments. When a number is too small to mean much, we say so instead of showing it.

Get in touch

If you use Pnyx in a class, we would like to hear what worked and what did not. Email teachers@thepnyxapp.com.