



How to Build Your Own Country

Valerie Wyatt, Fred Rix (Illustrator)

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How to Build Your Own Country is an interactive and totally original learning experience that shows kids how to build their very own country from scratch.

This book, the only one of its kind, offers children the expertise and advice they'll need to plant their flag in the backyard, in the bedroom or online. Kids will be amazed to discover that anyone can do it. Nation-building advice is peppered with examples of events that have shaped countries throughout history, teaching young readers about government, elections, geography and global issues.

Backed up with lots of amazing examples of real micronations - some established or ruled by kids - How to Build Your Own Country promises to inspire, entertain and inform young nation-builders.

Want to build your very own country from scratch? It's easy:

Step 1: Stake Out Your Identity ... with a flag, money and a national anthem. Learn how to put your country's name on the map.

Step 2: Run the Country ... with a government, constitution, laws and an economy.

Step 3: Meet the Neighbors ... and join other nations on the big issues that face the whole world, such as poverty, global warming, security and international aid.

How To Build Your Own Country is part of CitizenKid: A collection of books that inform children about the world and inspire them to be better global citizens.

How to Build Your Own Country Details

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Author : Valerie Wyatt , Fred Rix (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review How to Build Your Own Country for online ebook

Shannon says

This is a pretty great book, with lots of ridiculous random laws and micronations... I particularly liked the explanations of globalization and the guide to writing a constitution.

Angela Ahrendt says

How to Build Your Own Country is a wonderful learning aid for students who may be studying politics, government formation and function, economics, different governments throughout the world, or any topic relating to society and societal functions. It contains a large amount of information about all of the aspects of creating and running a successful country, and lets students get in the driver's seat and think about what it would take for them to build their own country. It will engage students with exciting ideas and illustrations, and provide them with information about all of the parts that make up the successful implementation of laws and government, along with all of the other aspects that come along with building your own successful country.

Donalyn says

A playful book that explains elements of nation-building such as currency and flags. Interesting facts about real countries scattered throughout.

Amar Pai says

Though painfully naive by design, this is a good kids book for a youngish civic minded kid. Good for launching q's such as "what does it mean to say a country has a right to exist?" (answer, not found in the book: "nothing. a country exists in as much as it can defend its declared borders. does the US have the right to exist? try invading and see"). Also sparks curiosity about currency valuation (still deeply mysterious to me), the impotence of the UN, and how one can ignore the will of the people for fun and profit. I guess this book is interesting to read from a cynical adult point of view cos the gaps between its idealized idea of what nations should be/do and the reality are fertile ground for contemplation. nationalism is a strange beast. cities are countries in microcosm. what would your flag look like? why are mottoes required? etc

Karen Dransfield says

A short non-fiction book about creating your own country Bathmatia. It goes into all the things you need to do to make your own country, and details real facts all the way through. Well written, great chapters and examples. A great book to share if studying what a country is and how they are created. It could easily be the

basis for a social studies unit.
Part of the CitizenKid book series.

oliviasbooks says

Toll! So viel kurzweilige und hilfreiche Information auf nur 40 Seiten - inklusive Illustrationen und einer guten Dosis leicht sarkastischen Humors:

"Ein Land zu regieren ist ein bisschen so, wie einen Goldfisch zu haben. Wenn du dich nicht um den Fisch kümmertest, geht alles das Klo runter (in diesem Fall: der Fisch). Sich um eine Bevölkerung zu kümmern macht allerdings etwas mehr Arbeit. Deine Einwohner werden sich nämlich nicht nur mit ein bisschen Futter und sauberem Wasser zufriedengeben. Sie werden große Dinge von Dir erwarten wie eine Regierung, ein Rechts- und ein Wirtschaftssystem. Und kleinere Dinge wie Straßen, Schulen und Krankenhäuser."

"Es hört sich erst einmal verlockend an, die Alleinherrschaft zu haben, aber die Geschichte lehrt uns, dass dieser Job auch gefährlich ist: Mancher Alleinherrscher wurde abgesetzt, gestürzt oder sogar entthauptet. Probier es lieber erst mal mit einer dieser anderen Regierungsformen: ..."

Amy says

A gem of a book...a fun, interactive look into what makes a country. Introduces lots of concepts in an engaging and hands-on way. Gross National Product, United Nations, different types of governments, principles of economy, etc. suddenly make more sense to me! This summer the kids and I are going to create our own countries and see what we can learn along the way...fun book!

Sunnyvale Librarian says

Ever wish you could design a country that's just the way you want it? Well, you can with the help of this very special book. Steps in building your country include deciding on your identity with a name, flag, and national anthem. Then, look into which form of government you'll use to run your country. Finally, choose how you'll work with your neighbor countries on some of the big issues that face the world. Along with providing information and ideas, the book offers plenty of fun color illustrations and activities for you to enjoy.

Susan says

Great way to teach kids about countries...fun.

Kristy says

My son who is in first grade really liked this book. It covers countries' flags, mottoes, citizens, types of government, elections, constitutions, laws, economies, holidays, peacekeeping, and neighbors in a fun way. The example country is Bathmatia, just south of Sinkestan and west of Bathtubia, whose motto is Free and Glorious Lint.

I could picture kids up to 5th grade enjoying this book and getting a lot out of it.

Shivantika says

This is overwhelming.

Sam says

I LOVE this book, it can be turned into a wonderful unit for kids to look at some facets of a country along with basically every branch of social studies we want to hit. Not to mention the engagement level is incredibly high... the extension activities are also almost limitless. Maybe a mini UN of their fictional creations?!

Cathy says

Wyatt, V., (2009), How to build your own country. Toronto, ON: Kids Can Press Ltd.

A step by step guide produced for kids who want to create their own country; first choose your country and everything that defines it, create a government and finally meet your neighboring countries. Real world examples support kids as they learn about global citizenship.

A well developed Glossary clearly explains unfamiliar terminology; the Index is detailed enough for students to retrieve information easily. Vocabulary is kid-friendly and the illustrations break up the text into digestible chunks. I would recommend this book for intermediate readers.

2012 Red Cedar Book Award, winner

2011 Hackmatack Award, winner

2011 Silver Birch Award, Ontario Library Association, winner

2010 Best Books for Kids & Teens, Canadian Children's Book Centre, winner

2010 Information Book Award, Children's Literature Roundtables of Canada, winner

Emyrose8 says

Great book, full of humor and interesting facts. Will definitely revisit this book when we learn about the American colonies.

Kay Carman says

This is an unusual book, but kind of funny, and with lots for kids to think about regarding what goes into creating and maintaining government.
