Electoral College Webquest

Today you will investigate the confusing Electoral College system. Follow the instructions below. Use the websites above the groups of questions.

<http://www.congressforkids.net/Elections_electoralcollege.htm>

1. The first line of this website claims that the people of the US don’t actually vote for the president. Is this really true? Explain…
2. Name one major way the Electoral College has changed (hint: it has to do with how we elect the president and VP)…
3. What does it mean it mean by “winner-take-all”?
4. The website says\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is the only state that does not use winner-take-all but the site is *wrong!* Raise your hand and let me tell you how…

<http://www.gallopade.com/client/ElectionsForKids/ElectoralCollege.html>

1. “The number of electors in each state is based on the state’s:
2. How many electoral votes are there in total?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_To win a candidate must get\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_has the most electoral votes because it has the highest\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. What is the least amount of electoral votes a state can have?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_How many electoral votes does Kansas have?

<http://www.congressforkids.net/Elections_electoralmap.htm>

1. This website says there are 2 major criticisms of the Electoral College; what are they?
   1. :
   2. :

Before you move on click on the “Show What You Know” button at the bottom of this page. Take this quiz either until you get at least a 70% (7/10) or three times…whichever comes first. Record your scores here: Attempt 1\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Attempt 2\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Attempt 3\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Alright, so who are these electors? You have read two site now; as well as you can, explain what the electors do.

<http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/electors.html>

1. What are the rules about who can be an elector?
2. Are there federal/constitutional laws that say an elector has to vote for the most popular candidate?

How do you feel about this?

1. Does Kansas have any formal laws that say an elector must vote for the candidate the majority of the people voted for?

<http://www.270towin.com/>

1. Look at the Electoral College map since 1980. What year had the closest race? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ What year had the difference in electoral votes?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. In one of these elections since 1980 the winner of the election did not win the popular vote…what election was it?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Who won the election?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Who won the popular vote? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Go to the 2016 map. Manipulate it until you can create a tie. Raise your hand and show me!!

What happens if there is a tie in real life? Hit the “more” tab at the top of the 270toWin site. Go down to “What Happens: Electoral College Tie” page to find out. Explain below:

<http://www.history.com/topics/us-presidents/presidential-election-facts>

1. 2000 was not the first time a president lost the election even though he won the most votes…name two other time in history this happened.
2. Has a president ever been chosen by the House of Representatives?

Who?

Why does this happened again?

1. Read the facts about presidential elections on this page…what three do you find most interesting?