

# REVOLUTION OR EVOLUTION?

## Purpose

Before you begin to dig into the causes, consequences, and longer-term impacts of revolutions, it's helpful to first understand what a revolution actually is, and how this relates to the political and social transformations that often occur as a result of these upheavals. To do this, you'll think about the differences between revolution and evolution to see how they are related, and how they are different. As you do this, you'll learn about a lot of different historical revolutions.

## Process

In this activity, you're going to really dig into what *revolution* means, and how revolutions and evolutions are similar, yet different.

First, brainstorm as many words as you can that relate to the word *revolution*. Your teacher will record these on the board as you brainstorm.

Next, brainstorm as many words as you can that relate to the word *evolution*. Your teacher will record these on the board as well.

Now, compare the two lists. Are there any synonyms shared by the two lists? Your teacher may have you come up to the board and circle the words on each list that are similar. Then, have a discussion about the similarities you see. Why do you think some of the words have similar meanings even though the words they started with are different? What about the differences? What makes an evolution different from a revolution?