



# Social Studies Newsletter

Arizona Department of Education  
K-12 Academic Standards

September 2019

## UPCOMING TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS

- ADE Webinars: Implementing the New Standards Grades - [9/25-K-6](#), [10/8-6-8](#), [10/22-9-12](#)
- ADE Trainings: Resources to teach the new standards—[10/17-K-6](#), [10/18-6-12](#)
- 9/5—[Civic Action Project Webinar](#)—Constitutional Rights Foundation
- 9/12—[Project Citizen: Understanding the Power of Public Policy](#)
- 9/13—[Teaching Social Justice Workshop](#)—Teaching Tolerance
- 9/14—[Facilitating Critical Conversations](#)—Teaching Tolerance
- 9/16—[Tour and Teach: Amazon Fulfillment Center](#)—ACEE
- 9/19—[Teen Court 101: Starting a Teen Court](#)
- 9/20—[Documents and Debate: Revolution, Citizenship, and Self-Government](#)—TeachingAmericanHistory.org
- 9/24—[How to Implement Mock Trial](#)
- 9/28—[Showcasing the Standards: 3rd Grade](#)—AZ Geographic Alliance
- 10/10—[Tour and Teach: TGen Laboratory](#)—ACEE
- 11/2—[Civics Saturday Training](#)
- 12/3—[Empowering Students to Influence Public Policy](#)
- 12/6—[Documents and Debates: Urban Growth and the Pullman Strike](#)—TeachingAmericanHistory.org
- 1/10—[We the People: The Curriculum and the Competition](#)
- 2/11—[A Teenager's Guide to Turning 18](#)

September 17th  
As part of our focus on civic engagement we have found some lessons that focus on the Constitution. The [Bill of Rights Institute](#) has great Constitution lessons with primary sources. For terrific K-12 lessons look at the [Constitutional Rights Foundation](#). They also send out free packets once a month with a primary sources about world history, U.S. history, and civics. Check out the [National Archives](#) for great Constitution lessons as well.



## Celebrate Civics!!

### YOUNG ADULTS VOTE IN RECORD NUMBERS—BUT IS IT ENOUGH?

The midterm elections of 2018 saw a “historic high point” for 18- and 19-year-old voting of 22 percent. Young adults are more engaged than ever before. Part of that comes from pushes in voter registration, however, it isn’t enough. Civics experts also stress the importance of school-based preparation and improved civics education and service learning at all levels. [Ed-WeekBlog](#)

### CIVICS GAMES

K-5 students interactively engage with civics and primary sources in this fun online game. <https://www.kidcitizen.net/>  
Students can engage interactively online or a mobile device in fun and interactive games that focus on Congress using primary sources. <https://engagingcongress.org/>



## CONFERENCE SEASON STARTS

- 9/7—[Arizona Council for History Education](#)
- 9/21—[Arizona Geographic Alliance Conference](#)
- 10/26—[Arizona Council for the Social Studies Conference](#)
- 11/22-24—[National Council for the Social Studies Conference](#)

## TIP OF THE MONTH

Every year the Children’s Book Council publishes a list of notable books on a variety of subjects. This years’ notable books list includes a variety of perspectives and indigenous voices that meet many of our new social studies standards. The book list breaks down books by grade band, has books for K-12 and has perfect ties to ELA topics too. Check out the list and build that awesome library.

[2019 Notable Social Studies Books](#)

## SIX WAYS TO ENGAGE STUDENTS WITH CIVICS

With our focus on civic engagement surrounding Constitution Week we thought it would be great to give some easy suggestions to incorporate civic engagement in your classrooms. In the [Annenberg Learner Log’s article](#) they provide opportunities to learn, contribute, and address issues in your community.

The first suggestion is to create and use a podcast to archive and tell community stories. This gets students writing, communicating, and developing technology skills in a different manner. The next suggestion includes community spaces. Find an area of your school or community that needs a face lift. Involve community members and local stores to provide supplies. Another civic engagement idea is to partner with science teachers and examine waste collection and recycling. Have students get involved with reusing items at your school. Then you can also get students involved with social justice issues. Have students find ways to address social prejudices in your school and community. Using economics and civics, have students become civically engagement by helping to contribute to a school improvement budget. They will learn cooperation, budgeting, planning, and more.

The last suggestion is to identify civil servants in your community and their contributions. Look for civil servants that students don’t normally think of—have them come as guest speakers. These ideas are all just small ways in which you can get your students more engaged civically in their schools and communities. Any little bit helps to promote civics literacy.

[National History Club](#) is looking for middle and high school students to start a club in their schools to promote the study of history. Clubs can participate in state and national programs and are provided resrouces and services to increase the study of history and civic engagement in their school.

## RESOURCES

- [Arizona Department of Education Social Studies](#)—List of online, free resources for every grade level. Click the Implementation Resources Tab, then the grade level you need.
- [Project Citizen](#)—Great resources for all grades dealing with civics and public policy, also ties to science issues.
- [Teaching Tolerance](#)—Lessons, videos, posterns on civics, history, geography, and economics with a focus on tolerance and community for all grades K-12.
- [PBS Media Learning](#)—Interactives, videos, lessons, galleries, audio, images, and documents all for grades K-12. Searchable by topic and grade level.