



# Social Studies Newsletter

May 2020

## UPCOMING ADE WEBINARS

Inquire about Inquiry Webinar—4/28,  
5/26

Incorporating Elementary Social Studies  
and ELA—4/30

OER and Primary Sources—5/5

## Student Writing and Art Contest

Phoenix Holocaust Association has a student writing and art contest for students in grades 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12. Each grade level has cash prizes awarded. Students may submit a written piece, a visual art, or performance art. Submissions are submitted from May 15 to October 20, 2020. For more information contact [studentcontest36@phxha.com](mailto:studentcontest36@phxha.com) or visit their website at [holocaustbybulletsphoenix.com/pha-art-contest](http://holocaustbybulletsphoenix.com/pha-art-contest).

## Science and Social Studies

How to teach social studies, science, and ELA in a packed elementary day? Here is a site that combines science and geography articles on subjects like climate, oceanography, biogeography, and more. These articles are geared toward elementary students and are engaging. During this time where we want to get the most learning in small manageable chunks for our kids, check out some of these articles at [easygeographyforkid.com](http://easygeographyforkid.com).

## Harvard Case Study Project

Harvard is looking for high school U.S. History and Civics/Government teachers to participate in a case method project. Details [here](#). Apply [here](#).

## Virtual Classroom Tips

As we are all online delivering content to students here are some tips from iCivics on structuring a virtual classroom that can be helpful going forward for the remainder of the school year. Visit [Jennifer Hitchcock's iCivics article](#) for more details.

- Strive for asynchronous—this helps with equity and students that lack access to technology.
- Less is more—This is an overwhelming time for everyone, narrow your focus to essential standards only and limit the screen time.
- Learning should be more concrete—Be clear and concise in your directions and be interactive.
- Break skills down—Scaffold, micro-target skills, and give feedback.
- Build a community—Encourage the use of chat and other means of communication with you.

## Look Local

**Arizona Council for Economic Education**—This local organization offers professional development geared specifically toward our 2018 standards. They also offer a variety of student opportunities for learning and competitions. Visit them at [azecon.org](http://azecon.org).

**Arizona Geographic Alliance**—This local organization also offers professional development, summer geography institutes, and many lessons also geared toward our 2018 standards. 3rd grade teachers check out their Legacy Project tab for AZ specific lessons. Visit them at [geoalliance.asu.edu](http://geoalliance.asu.edu).

## Use Music to Engage Students

Sometimes we have to think outside of the box. That is more true now than ever before. As we go further with this non-traditional learning and the struggle becomes how to keep your students motivated, try some music. Music can be a great motivator and interest to your kids. One site to check out is [Soundcloud/HistoryTunes](#). They have quite a few songs written about different historical time periods. There are paid sites that are relatively inexpensive like [HistoryTunes](#). And lastly have your students take a song, any song, and rewrite the lyrics to fit with what ever content you are learning about. You can even have them record videos and share.

## ADE Covid-19 Resources

[Vetted resources for all subjects](#)

### Content Specialist Office Hours —

Contact us [via email](#) to request a Zoom registration for weekly meetings to touch base and gather resources.

**Mondays 10:30-11:30**

### Teacher Office Hours—

Contact us [via email](#) to request a Zoom registration for weekly meetings to touch base and gather resources.

**Thursdays 9:30-10:30—Elementary**  
**Thursday 1:30-2:30—Secondary**

## Georgia DOE

Georgia's Department of Education has created some GREAT short videos on incorporating inquiry into the elementary classroom. These helpful videos give real world examples of inquiry in the elementary classroom. [GADOE](#).