8th Grade Resources

Citizenship and Civic Engagement in Today's Society

The content focus will be viewed through civic and economic lenses. Citizenship and civic engagement will be taught through inquiry. Eighth grade students will make connections between historical and current/recent issues as a base for implementing change in society. Students will recognize and practice their roles and responsibilities as both American and global citizens. United States History will focus on the major events that have their roots in the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and subsequent amendments.

Course Considerations:

- Foundations of the United States government stemming from historical events such as the American Revolution and Civil War
- Constitution including structure, function, and principles
- Formal institutions such as Congress, the courts, the presidency, and linkage institutions such as media, elections, interest groups, polling, and political parties
- Historical and current legislation and landmark Supreme Court cases
- Civil rights movements throughout American history such as African-Americans, Latinx, Asian-Americans, women, American Indians, LGBTQ individuals, persons with disabilities, youth, and the elderly
- Immigration
- Amendments to the Constitution that have expanded the right to vote and equal protection under the law
- Social movements and issues both historical and current including the constitutional principles and structures (amendments, courts, Congress, and executive orders) that spur, promote, and protect these movements
- Human rights and genocides including treaties and organizations that promote human rights and a study of the nations and leaders that abuse human rights and/or support genocide (In addition to the study of the Holocaust, other genocides should be studied.)
- Environmental issues
- Information and media age including digital citizenship and media literacy
- Terrorism both domestic and international and how it influences citizens' safety and rights
- Examination of primary and secondary sources including written and oral histories, images, and artifacts
- Disciplinary skills and processes including change and continuity over time, multiple perspectives, using and understanding sources, and cause and effect

NOTE: Resources may be listed as a different grade based upon national or other state curriculum. Please search by topic for sources to use.

Resource	Website	Description
C3 Inquiry	http://www.c3teachers.org/inquiries/	Search by topic to find inquiries that
		cover the course considerations. Use all
		or part of the inquiries in your classes.

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Primary http://primarysourcenexus.org/psn-source Nexus Resource partnered with the Library of Congress. Searchable topics and grade			_
Source Nexus resources/themed-link-sets/cps-social- Congress. Searchable topics and grade	D :		
studies/ levels and includes lessons.	Source Nexus	-	
		studies/	levels and includes lessons.

Facing	https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library	Collection of primary sources and
History and	intps://www.idemgnistory.org/resource-norary	teacher resources on a variety of topics
Ourselves		including U.S. History.
Foreign	https://www.fpri.org/education/lesson-plans-teachers/	Lesson plans with primary and secondary
Policy	intps.//www.ipii.org/education/iesson-plans-teachers/	sources on a variety of topics that include
Research		U.S. in a global context.
Institute		U.S. III a global context.
Teaching	http://teachingamericanhistory.org/	Primary and secondary sources from all
American	intp://teachingamericaninstory.org/	eras of U.S. History. Sources are
History		searchable by topic, and time. Includes
Thstory		lessons, toolkits, and online exhibits.
:Civiaa	1.44man//manuscription and/	
iCivics	https://www.icivics.org/	Grades 7-12 lessons, web quests, DBQs,
		and games geared toward U.S. history
T '1 C		and civics.
Library of	https://www.loc.gov/education/	Grades K-12 lessons, primary sources,
Congress		maps, and professional development on a
		variety of subjects, not just U.S. History.
Teaching	https://www.tolerance.org/	Great lessons, posters, film, K-12 on
Tolerance		civics, history, geography, and
		economics with a focus on tolerance and
		community.
Teaching	http://thwt.org/	Lessons, activities, multimedia and more
History with		for grades 6-12 on all social studies
Technology		content areas.
History	http://historymatters.gmu.edu/	Teaching U.S. History using digital
Matters		lessons for grades 6-12.
The	http://smithsonianeducation.org/	Huge number of resources for many
Smithsonian		topics, not just social studies. Resources
Museum Lab		include lessons, video clips, and
		interactives. Read or watch the getting
		started guide to narrow your searches.
Teaching	https://teachinghistory.org/teaching-materials	Searchable lessons and resources for K-
History.org		12 as well as teacher methodologies.
EDSITEment	https://edsitement.neh.gov/	Lessons from the National Endowment
		for the Humanities. All lessons are
		searchable by grade level or
		subject/topic.
Annenberg	https://www.learner.org/	Annenberg Media's K-12 site for videos,
Learner		lessons, and interactives. Other content
		areas are available as well.
Constitutional	https://www.crf-usa.org/	Lessons, readings, and role play for
Rights		civics. Also included is the Civic Action
Foundation		Project for further engagement.
Citizen U	https://citizen-u.org/lesson-plan/	Civics lessons partnered with the Library
	impostration diorgitesson plant	of Congress with great primary and
		secondary sources.
		secondary sources.