

Resources Featured in the National Archives Foundation Workshops, 8/17 – 19, 2021

1. Teaching 6 Big Ideas in the Constitution, 8/17/21

*Teaching Six Big Ideas in the Constitution:*

<https://www.archives.gov/legislative/resources/education/constitution>

Summary: This lesson engages students in a study of the Constitution to learn the significance of "Six Big Ideas" contained in it. Students analyze the text of the Constitution in a variety of ways, examine primary sources to identify their relationship to its central ideas and debate the core constitutional principles as they relate to today's political issues.

*Constitutional Scavenger Hunt with Political Cartoons:*

<https://www.archives.gov/legislative/resources/education/constitution-scavenger-hunt>

Summary: In this lesson, students will analyze 16 political cartoons drawn by Clifford and Jim Berryman during the early to mid-20th century. They will search through the Constitution and associate each cartoon with a specific clause. Through networking exercises, students will analyze all 16 cartoons and read the entire Constitution. They will learn about the outline and structure of the Constitution, as well as the content of many of its clauses.

eBook: *Representing Congress: Clifford K. Berryman's Political Cartoons:*

<https://www.archives.gov/legislative/resources/ebooks>

Summary: *Representing Congress* is an eBook which presents a selection of political cartoons and learning resources to engage students in a discussion of what Congress is, how it works, and what it does.

2. In Their Own Words: Women's Petitions to Congress, 1830 – 1971, 8/18/2021

*In Their Own Words: Women's Petitions to Congress, 1830 – 1971*

<https://www.archives.gov/legislative/resources/education/womens-petitions-to-congress>

Summary: Students analyze women's petitions to Congress from five different eras to identify the issues women petitioned about, place the petitions in the context of their time, and understand how women have used the First Amendment right to petition to make their voices heard.

3. Racial Discrimination in the Jim Crow Era, 8/19/2021

*The Impact of Racial Discrimination on Black American Lives in the Jim Crow Era (1944 – 1960)*

<https://www.archives.gov/legislative/resources/education/impact-of-racial-discrimination-in-jim-crow-era>

Summary: Students analyze documents from the holdings of the National Archives to assess the impact of legalized racial segregation on the lives of Black Americans from 1944 – 1960.

*Was Reconstruction a Revolution?*

<https://www.archives.gov/legislative/resources/education/reconstruction>

Summary: Students will examine several historical congressional records from the Reconstruction period to assess whether the documents show evidence that the Reconstruction period of American history should or should not be viewed as a revolution.

*Congress Protects the Right to Vote: The Voting Rights Act of 1965*

<https://www.archives.gov/legislative/resources/education/voting-rights>

Summary: Using facsimiles of historical records from the files of the U.S. House of Representative Judiciary Committee, students will evaluate evidence and consider the constitutional issues that the committee encountered as it deliberated the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Students will examine the concept of federalism and weigh the proper balance of powers between Federal and state governments when protecting the right to vote.