



Updates from the Ohio Department of Education

Teaching in Uncertain Times

In August 2020, the Office of Learning and Instructional Strategies presented the virtual conference, *Teaching in Uncertain Times*. Recorded sessions are now available for viewing on the [Ohio Department of Education's website](#).

Graduation Requirements

Stay current with graduation requirements for the class of 2021 at the Graduation Flexibility Page for the Class of 2021 and Beyond webpage.

News from Other Organizations

Social Studies Instruction and Reading Comprehension

The Fordham Foundation has released a study, [Social Studies Instruction and Reading Comprehension](#), highlighting the importance of high-quality elementary social studies instruction to increase reading scores.

Ohio Center for Law-Related Education

The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE) will conduct all fall and winter programming online. Program-specific details can be found on [OCLRE's website](#).

National Geography Bee Moving Online

The National Geographic Education team has reimagined the vision and goals of the GeoBee and GeoChallenge competitions. Beginning next year, 2021, the competition is moving to a new model to streamline and modernize these competitions to provide more flexibility, accessibility and engagement while creating a more equitable opportunity for all students. More information about these updates is available on the GeoBee website at [NatGeoBee.org](#). As part of the transition, the National Geographic Society is shifting some of the operational elements of the GeoBee competition, which now will include administering the state-level competitions online.

Next Gen Personal Finance Courses for Online or Hybrid Teaching

To learn more about Next Gen's Nearpod online resources and courses, visit the [Next Gen Personal Finance website](#). Nearpod resources are free but require a teacher to be registered for the course and registration is free.

Junior Achievement in Ohio

With school back in session, so is Junior Achievement! With support for all classrooms — in person or remote — volunteers and educators can share Junior Achievement's quality digital content through:

- Live remote sessions;
- Recorded videos;
- Student self-guided content.

Contact [Denice Schafer](#) for details.

Ohio Supreme Court Education Updates Learning Resources and Virtual Tours

The Supreme Court of Ohio has two NEW digital learning resources available on the Court's [Judicial Branch Education Resources](#) page.

- The Human Cannonball's Flight through the Courts
 - **FREE** lesson plans aligned with Ohio's Learning Standards for the 4th and 8th Grade Social Studies and 4th through 8th Grade English Language Arts curricula. Over multiple class sessions, students learn about a real legal dispute between Hugo Zacchini, a man who performed a human cannonball act, and an Ohio television station that recorded and broadcast the full 15-second performance without his permission. The lesson culminates in a mock trial where students act out the various roles - judge, attorneys, witnesses, and others - and decide the outcome of the case.
- [Ohio's Three Branches of Government](#) Video
 - A fun and fast-paced video that explores the critical concepts of checks and balances and the role of the state and federal constitutions. It also explains who does what in Ohio's judicial, legislative, and executive branches.

Virtual Tours of the Supreme Court of Ohio

Two types of Zoom tours of the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center are available. These virtual tours focus on the role of the judicial branch, Ohio's court system, and the work of the Ohio Supreme Court. Tours can also include Ohio history as shown through the building's artwork.

- Option 1: A PowerPoint presentation incorporating photos and videos of the building and significant court cases. Students and teachers are encouraged to ask questions throughout the presentation.
- Option 2: A live walking tour of the building led by staff of the Civic Education Section. Students will virtually spend time in the Supreme Court courtroom, public hearing rooms, and the Visitor Education Center. At each stop there will be time for student questions.

Contact the Court's Civic Education office at CourtTours@sc.ohio.gov or 614-387-9223 with questions and to discuss tour options.

Facing History Upcoming Online Workshops

Oct. 15-Nov. 25

[Facing History - Stolen Lives: The Indigenous Peoples of Canada and the Residential Schools Online Course](#)

In this online course, explore the history of Canada's Residential Schools through primary source texts and survivors' personal testimonies to better understand the devastating history and long-lasting impact on former students, their families and entire Indigenous communities. Participants also will look at the historical roots and legacies that followed while examining the apologies given by government and churches, the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the charge of genocide. All elements will help students connect this history to their own lives and the choices they make.

News Literacy Project

Don't miss News Literacy Project's fall news literacy professional development series: Skills students must learn to be reliably informed. This four-part series begins Tuesday, Oct. 6, and will be held at 5 p.m. ET every Tuesday in October. News Literacy Project's education team will lead each session, which will address a different topic in news literacy education. This series is generously sponsored by the news aggregating mobile app SmartNews. [Learn more or register now.](#)

National Conference on History Education: Online Conference

The National Council for History Education will hold its annual conference online April 8-11, 2021. For more information and to learn how to register, click [here](#).



The National Archives is Hosting a Virtual Pajama Party!

Join the National Archives for a virtual pajama party Saturday, Oct. 17, at 8 p.m., for students ages 8-12. The evening will focus on Jackie Robinson and themes for the evening include: Welcoming Strangers, Heroes, Making Mistakes and Making Changes, and Standing Up Against Discrimination. Pre-registration is required. To learn more, visit the [National Archives website](#).

Resources

Students Are Living History. Empower Their Voices by Creating Primary Sources

This [article](#) from EdSurge gives educators ideas for having students record their experiences and creating primary sources about changes occurring as a result of COVID-19.

Census Bureau Resources

Statistics in Schools activities help students learn about how the census enables funding and planning for education, as well as determines the number of seats each state gets in Congress for the next 10 years.

Activities include:

- [Five-Minute Apportionment Map Warm-up](#): Students will analyze a map to answer questions about states and the number of seats they have in the House of Representatives.
- [Constitution Activity](#): This 35-minute activity teaches the significance of the U.S. Constitution and Constitution Day, with a focus on why the census is conducted every 10 years.

World War I Resources

The [United States World War I Centennial Commission](#) provides free educational materials, Ohio-specific [information and resources](#), includes lessons such as [Camp Sherman and the Mound City Earthworks](#) on the site that is a collaboration between the Ohio History Connection and State of Ohio Library.

1776 Unites

[1776 Unites](#), is a resource from the Woodson Center. As stated on the website, “The 1776 Unites curriculum offers authentic, inspiring stories from American history that show what is best in our national character and what our freedom makes possible even in the most difficult circumstances. 1776 Unites maintains a special focus on stories that celebrate black excellence, reject victimhood culture, and showcase African-Americans who have prospered by embracing America’s founding ideals.”

Election Resources

Ohio Secretary of State Election Page

Find links to [resources](#) on Ohio candidates, voting in Ohio and requesting an absentee ballot for Ohioans.

Rock the Vote

[Rock the Vote](#) includes resources for a democracy class and civic engagement and can help students register to vote.

C-SPAN

[C-SPAN Classroom](#) video resources explain the various aspects of the election process for candidates vying to become the next president of the United States. Separated into various sections, each topic is supplemented with related video clips, bell ringers, lessons, discussion questions, handouts and culminating activities to reinforce students' learning. These resources will be updated with new resources as the election process unfolds.

Election 2020

[Election 2020: The Road to the White House](#) (The Reagan Foundation) website has a unit for teaching about the 2020 election for both [elementary/K-5](#) and [secondary/6-12 classrooms](#).

iCivics Election Toolkit

This [iCivics Election Toolkit](#) brings an opportunity to use the elections to engage students in the proven practices of civic education.



270 To Win

This [2020 Presidential Election Interactive Map](#) takes students through the process for presidents to be elected with the 270 electoral votes needed to win the election. Students can click states on this interactive map to create their own 2020 election forecasts. Create a specific match-up by clicking the party and/or names near the electoral vote counter. Use the buttons below the map to share the forecast or embed it into a webpage.

Engaging Students During the 2020 Election

Teach about the 2020 election using New York Times [resources](#) including writing prompts, challenges, lesson plans and other resources for teachers and students. Check out [11 Ways to Engage to Students From Now Until November](#).

Library of Congress

The [Library of Congress](#) blog, Path to the Presidency, includes suggestions for ways to use primary sources to help students learn about the election process and past elections.

Museum of the Moving Image

[The Living Room Candidate](#) houses historic campaign ads, lessons plans and an “Ad Maker” tool for students.

Other Resources

What Does It Mean to be an American? Resources

[What Does It Mean to be an American?](#) is a curriculum for high school students that examines what it means to be an American and was developed by the Mineta Legacy Project and Stanford. Lessons focus on six areas: Civic Engagement, Leadership, Immigration, Justice and Reconciliation, Civil Liberties and Equity, and U.S.-Japan Relations.

National Park Service: 100 Years of Women Voting Checklist

This [checklist](#) includes students virtually visiting National Park Sites to learn more about Suffragists and women voting in the United States and a list of 20 ideas for getting students involved in learning about women gaining the right to vote remotely.

One Hundred Years of Women’s Voting

Hear a recording of The Ohio State University’s panel discussion on the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment hosted by The Ohio State University College of Arts and Sciences. The discussion included the legacy of enfranchisement, especially for women of color; the ongoing gender disparity in elected officials; and how history informs the 2020 election. [Listen here](#).

These resources are not comprehensive, and the Ohio Department of Education does not endorse them. The Department shares resources for educators to determine if they are appropriate for use in their district or classroom.

Send comments/questions to:

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