

Hello Everyone!

## ***From PBS LearningMedia***

### **Explore the Rich History of the U.S. Presidency With 60-Second Presidents**

Explore how the U.S. presidency has evolved over time with your class using the [60-Second Presidents](#) video series! The biographies, videos, and support materials in this collection will help your students build their understanding of presidential powers and responsibilities, as well as dive into many of the key figures who have led and shaped American history.

***Educator Tip:*** After exploring, head to the [U.S. Presidency collection](#) to discover even more videos and primary sources that will place your students back in time during some of the most pivotal turning points in American history.

## ***New From Founding Forward: Summer Student Opportunities***

Founding Forward's programs for elementary, middle, and high school students are unmatched in their ability to bring history to life. Through their unique immersive educational opportunities, Founding Forward utilizes the places where history happened to build the leaders of today and tomorrow. Learn more about their [Summer 2026 student opportunities](#).

## ***New On-Demand Events from Econiful***

Check out these new free resources from Econiful. Once you register, you can access [all of the below on-demand events](#).

- Six "Secret" Econ Resources (Spring 2026)
- Getting Started as an Economics Educator
- Exploring Econiful's Unit 1 (Economic Foundations)
- Exploring Econiful's Unit 2 (Microeconomics)
- Exploring Econiful's Unit 3 (Macroeconomics)
- Exploring Econiful's Unit 4 (Global Foundations)

## ***New From Echoes and Reflections***

### **Foundations of Holocaust Education**

Considering aligning teaching about the Holocaust with your spring lessons on WWII history? If so, now is the time to start preparing and this course will equip you to responsibly teach the fundamentals of Holocaust history.

#### **Course Details:**

- Three modules; approximately 7 hours to complete.
- Proceed at your own pace each week, be supported by an instructor, and enjoy interaction with other educators.
- Complete all three modules for a 7-hour certificate.
- Final module includes additional time to complete optional final project for a 10-hour certificate.
- Graduate credit available through the University of the Pacific.

### **Teaching about Holocaust Denial & Distortion**

Want to support your students in having a better understanding of Holocaust denial and distortion? This course will guide you in empowering students to recognize and reject these forms of antisemitism that they may encounter.

#### **Course Details:**

- One module, approximately 5 hours to complete.
- Proceed at your own pace each week, be supported by an instructor, and enjoy interaction with other educators.
- Complete all activities for a 5-hour certificate.
- Graduate credit is available through the University of the Pacific.

## ***From The Gilder Lehrman Institute: History School Book Club***

[History School Book Club \(HSBC\)](#) is back with a brand new set of videos on [Lincoln and the Civil War](#). Students can also explore [The Founding Era](#) and [African American History](#).

### **How It Works**

Book Club content is based on previous *Book Breaks* episodes. Students watch a video featuring a renowned historian discussing their pivotal work and answer knowledge-check questions interspersed throughout. They earn badges as they progress through the units in each topic, helping them keep track of their progress. When they complete all the units in the topic, they will receive a certificate.

## ***From The U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor Genocide Awareness***

The [U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor Genocide Awareness](#) is sponsoring a cash prize competition for U.S. high schools students grades 9 – 12. This competition is particularly relevant for students taking classes in history, genocide studies, social studies, English and journalism. Submissions may be in traditional non-digital formats or web-based media projects.

Entries are due by Tuesday, March 31, 2026.

See the official description here, which also includes the teacher feedback form: [Holodomor Competition letter 2026](#)

To request additional information, please email [ukrainecompetition@gmail.com](mailto:ukrainecompetition@gmail.com)

See also articles listing the winners of recent competitions, and remarks from the students and educators who participated in this learning experience :

[Building on last year 2024. 2024 Announcement of winners.](#)

[Winners of 2025 Ukrainian Holodomor Student Competition announced. 5.16.25](#)

## ***Black History Month Resources for Your K-12 Classroom from iCivics***

[Black History Month](#) offers a powerful opportunity to explore how Black Americans have shaped our nation and its civic life from its very beginning.

This year, iCivics' resources are organized into easy-to-navigate themes aligned with the [Civic Star Challenge](#), making it simple to integrate Black History Month into your curriculum as you teach the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Each theme has options for high school, middle school, and elementary.

## ***Conflict Resolution Resources from Common Sense Education***

*"Don't call me. Don't come by my house. We're done."*

If you know *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, you've heard this line. Rowley says it when his friendship with Greg finally breaks—after too many moments that feel toxic and hurtful.

It's a scene that mirrors what we see in schools every day: the deepest conflicts often come not from bullies, but from friends. When friendships go wrong, students need more than prevention—they need tools to repair.

**What Does Repair Look Like in the Classroom?** Here are hands-on lessons that help students practice conflict resolution and friendship repair:

- Practicing sincere apologies: [Sincere Apologies](#) (Grade 2)
- Understanding when a joke goes too far: [Is It Just a Joke?](#) (Grade 3)
- Choosing how to mend a friendship: [M.E.N.D.ing Friendships](#) (Grade 4)
- Recognizing, repairing, and rebuilding relationships: [Making Things Right: Repairing Harms](#) (Grade 6)
- Standing up for friends in digital spaces: [S.T.A.N.D. Up to Support Friends](#) (Grade 8)

## ***PBS NewsHour Classroom Resources Around Current Events in Minnesota***

Recent events in Minnesota — including widespread protests and a national debate over federal immigration enforcement — may be on students’ minds. Educators are encouraged to share [this article](#) from Children’s Minnesota with guidance on talking with children about U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) actions to support students as they process what’s happening.

To support classroom discussions, five [Daily News Lessons](#) focused on Minnesota have been created. Each lesson includes warm-up questions, essential questions, a media literacy prompt, and a “What Students Can Do” section. Teachers can choose the questions that best suit their students or adapt them using the shared Google Doc.

## ***Present a Session at the 106th NCSS Annual Conference***

The call for proposals is now open for the 106th NCSS Annual Conference! The conference will take place December 4–6, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago in Chicago, IL. [Submit your proposal now.](#)

The conference planning committee has crafted a vision centered on a theme that defines the heartbeat of our profession: Social Studies 365.

Proposals are due February 25, 2026 at 5:00 EST.

## ***Upcoming Webinars for Educators from Colonial Williamsburg***

[Debating the Constitution: Strategies for Teaching Civil Discourse with Primary Sources](#) February 24 | 7:00 PM ET

Presented by Joe Schmidt, executive director of K–12 education at Colonial Williamsburg and co-author of *Civil Discourse: Classroom Conversations for Stronger Communities*, this webinar demonstrates a classroom discourse strategy that connects constitutional primary sources with meaningful student dialogue. Participants will earn 1.5 professional development hours.

## ***Plan Your Summer 2026 Summer PD***

Opportunities for summer travel and professional development are starting to be shared. [Check out this comprehensive list of summer opportunities](#) from organizations like Gilder Lehrman, Founding Forward, Sphere, and more!

## ***From The OER Project: How to Teach Revolutions***

History is basically a long line of people looking around, going, “Yeah, this isn’t working”—and then doing something about it. Good news: **You don’t have to stage a coup to teach it.** OER has pulled together [their best resources](#) to help your students see how revolutions start, spread, and reshape the world.

## ***March is Women’s History Month***

Women’s History Month is an annual celebration dedicated to highlighting and honoring the contributions and achievements of women throughout history. Observed during March in many countries, this month serves as an opportunity to recognize and commemorate the accomplishments of women in various fields, including science, literature, politics, arts, and social activism. Below is a resource to learn more:

[Digital Classroom Resources | National Women's History Museum \(womenshistory.org\)](#)

## ***2026 Gilder Lehrman Institute History Teacher of the Year***

Do you know an outstanding educator? The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is seeking **2026 National History Teacher of the Year** nominations!

Each year they recognize first-rate K–12 teachers—from rural and urban districts, public and independent schools, teaching a wide variety of subjects—who find creative ways to bring history to life in their classrooms.

The nomination process is fast, easy, and free. Learn more and nominate a teacher at by visiting the [Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History website](#).

**The nomination deadline for this year's award is April 30, 2026.**

NOTE: Sites identified here have been reviewed by the content advisor; however, educators are advised to preview for appropriateness for their respective classrooms.

## ***America's Field Trip***

**America's Field Trip** is back. Students in grades 3-12 are invited to participate in this year's contest by sharing their perspective about what America means to them. Winners will receive an unforgettable field trip experience to one of our nation's most iconic, historic, or cultural sites. Written or original artwork answering the question "**What does America mean to you**" is now being accepted. **The deadline for submissions is 2:00pm (ET) on March 30, 2026.**

Visit [America's Field Trip - America250](#) to learn more.

## ***Keystone Scholars***

**KEYSTONE SCHOLARS** jumpstarts educational savings by providing a **\$100 scholarship for every child born to a PA family in 2019 and later** for future education. The scholarship can be used between the ages of 18-29 for post-high school technical, collegiate, apprenticeship, and credentialing educational expenses.

Keystone Scholars has three primary goals:

1. Help parents maintain high expectations for their child's future education.
2. Cultivate a future-focused identity in children.

**Research shows that children with college savings in their name are three times more likely to pursue postsecondary education and four times more likely to graduate.**

3. Prompt parents to start saving as early as possible to give funds the longest time to grow.

You can encourage parents to claim their child's account at [pa529.com/keystone](https://pa529.com/keystone). Only three pieces of information are needed:

- Child's date of birth,
- Zip code on file when child was born, and
- State File Number from child's PA birth certificate.

Once claimed, parents may open a companion PA 529 account to contribute their own savings! Families can start savings with as little as \$1/month.

For more information, including resources and materials, please contact Karen McDermott, Manager, Children's Savings Accounts at [kmcdermott@patreasury.gov](mailto:kmcdermott@patreasury.gov).

Thank you for subscribing to the SAS Social Studies PLC and for all you do every day for the students in Pennsylvania!

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