



ONLINE RESOURCES

Grades K-2

- PBS American Experience <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/>
- PBS Democracy Project <http://pbskids.org/democracy/>
- Ben's Guide to the Government <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>
- White House for Kids <http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/>
- Online Sunshine Junior <http://www.leg.state.fl.us/kids/junior/index.html>
- Federal Reserve for Kids <http://www.federalreserve.gov/KIDS/>

Grades 3-5

- PBS American Experience <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/>
- PBS Democracy Project <http://pbskids.org/democracy/>
- VA Kids <http://www.va.gov/kids/>
- History Central <http://www.multied.com/>
- Ben's Guide to the Government <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>
- White House for Kids <http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/>
- Online Sunshine <http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Welcome/index.cfm?CFID=43840979&CFTOKEN=22955156>
- American President <http://millercenter.org/academic/americanpresident>

Grades 6-8

- PBS American Experience <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/>
- PBS Democracy Project <http://pbskids.org/democracy/>
- Project Vote Smart <http://www.votesmart.org/>
- VA Kids <http://www.va.gov/kids/>
- National Archives: Electoral College Home Page <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/>
- History Central <http://www.multied.com/>
- Ben's Guide to the Government <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>
- White House for Kids <http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/>



Online Sunshine <http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Welcome/index.cfm?CFID=43840979&CFTOKEN=22955156>

American President <http://millercenter.org/academic/americanpresident>

Grades 9-12

PBS American Experience <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/>

Project Vote Smart <http://www.votesmart.org/>

VA Kids <http://www.va.gov/kids/>

Rock the Vote <http://www.rockthevote.com/home.php>

National Archives: Electoral College Home Page <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/>

History Central <http://www.multied.com/>

Ben's Guide to the Government <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>

American President <http://millercenter.org/academic/americanpresident>

Links supported by Sunshine State Standards

The Headbone Zone

<http://www.headbone.com/derby/polls/>

Headbone Derby is a series of on-line research adventures that provides students with an engaging structure within which they learn and conduct Internet research. You will find the Derby flexible, easy to use, free and beneficial to students. Students will learn the fundamentals of Internet research and apply their knowledge of key aspects of American government. The Derby does all of this in a fun, engaging context!

USA Government

<http://www.mcwn.org/GOVERNMENT/GovFrame.html>

Helps students master different concepts about government. It also contains links and projects so that they can expand their knowledge of the workings of our government.

The American Presidency

<http://ap.grolier.com/browse?type=pep>

Grolier Online's *American Presidency* presentation explores the history of the presidency and provides coverage of the 2004 elections. The historical section features hundreds of articles from Grolier Online, Scholastic's comprehensive collection of encyclopedias and other reference resources, plus presidential speeches, photographs, audio and video clips, and other items associated with the presidency and its role within the framework of the federal government.



CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES & IDEA STARTERS

Grades 3-12

- Define citizenship. We are all citizens of many communities
- Ask your students to identify what communities they are members of?
- What do communities need in order to function and prosper?
- The role of the media in our political process and in the lives of your students
- Hold your own election: Go through all the steps including developing a platform, organizing debates, designing buttons and posters and slogans. Invite another class to participate as the electorate.
- Look up your local representatives. Write to them about issues that are important to your students.
- Invite the mayor (or another elected official) to your school. Prepare an interview or mock press conference.
- Look up the census information concerning your community. What does your community "look" like?
- Explore the primary characteristics of your community or state (e.g. economic, cultural, historical) and consider how they affect local, state, and national politics.
- Pick a cabinet department. Go to its site. Find out who the cabinet member is who heads the department and be ready to tell about the department's work.
- If you had the opportunity to create a cabinet department, what it would be? Pretend you would be the secretary of that department. Write a speech telling what your department does for the country.
- Go to the White House website. Write down ten facts you learned about the White House that you didn't know before.
- Make up a presidential trivia game.
- Make a graph showing which states our presidents have come from.
- Make a pie graph showing the political party each of our presidents represented.
- Make a pie graph showing election results from the election year of your choice for a candidate.
- Make a pie graph with percentages dividing the federal tax money between departments. Tell why you would give the percentages you would to each.
- Pick a president and go to a webpage about him. Be ready to report ten facts you learned about him.
- Invite candidates to speak to your class or school assembly. Have students research the candidates' positions on the issues and prepare questions for the speakers.
- Review newspaper articles and news reports on the candidates or referendum issues. Analyze the media's coverage of the candidates and issues. Hold weekly meetings to discuss the recent development in the campaigns.
- Plan and organize a speech-writing or quiz team competition.
- Assign students to political parties and conduct a convention with students taking part as candidates, campaign managers, speech writers, reporters, etc.