

Learning Pathway: Current Events

Building Democracy For All is designed so that teachers and students can follow different learning pathways as they explore the material in the book. Rather than proceeding sequentially through the standards, the learning pathways invite a thematic approach. Other learning pathways include: [Student Rights](#), [Influential Women](#), [Black Lives Matter](#), [Media Literacy](#), and [Election 2020](#).

This pathway is designed to provide resources for teachers and students to explore **current events** in the larger context of educational and public policy questions and issues.

Check out findings from a 2022 study on [Young People's Relationship to the News](#):






- Young people seem to engage more with "news" than "the news." "The news" is narrowly defined as (mainly) politics and current affairs.
- Some young people actively avoid "narrow," "serious" news – at least some of the time.
- Many young people actively engage with alternative brands and perspectives, and with types of content that include that generated by celebrities, social influencers, individual journalists, podcasters, users, and many more others.

Recent Addition to the eBook

The coronavirus pandemic has caused massive unemployment throughout the country. New material has been added to [Topic 4.3 \(ENGAGE\)](#) to frame the debate about whether the United States should adopt Universal Basic Income or Guaranteed Employment as national policies.

[Current Events Choice Board](#)

[\(click here to make your own copy of the choice board\)](#)

Election 2020 Complete a row of activities from the Election 2020 Choice Board 	Space Exploration Construct an interactive digital story about Space Exploration from the Cold War to Today 	Natural Disasters Play Stop Disasters! and then evaluate the U.S. government's response to natural disasters throughout history 	COVID-19 Pandemic Design an infographic that compares and contrasts the COVID-19 Pandemic to other pandemics in history 
Activism and Change Design a multimodal book or write a children's book about the impact of activists from Anna Dickinson to today (Greta Thunberg)  	Current Events Through the Lens of History Choice Board  Links and Materials from resourcesforhistoryteachers wiki & Building Democracy for All eBook		Climate Change Evaluate historical efforts to address Climate Change and Global Warming and write a proposal for a new initiative to reduce the impacts of Climate Change  
Technology Design a comic strip about Technological Change from the Printing Press to Tik Tok 	Human Rights Create a mosaic representing historical factors that have influenced one of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights today 	Sports and Protests Evaluate the impact of protests by athletes throughout history and today 	Law and Courts Compare Significant historical Supreme Court Decisions to recent Supreme Court Decisions 

Current Events Choice Board by [Robert W. Maloy](#), Ed.D. & [Torrey Trust](#), Ph.D.,
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Building Democracy for All Chapters

Topic 1: The Philosophical Foundations of the United States Political System

- [ENGAGE: Should 16 or 17 Year-Olds Be Allowed to Vote?](#)

Topic 2: The Development of United States Government

- [ENGAGE: Who Should Have Primary Responsibility for Environmental Policies?](#)



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Topic 3: Institutions of United States Government

- [UNCOVER: Electing LGBTQIA Legislators](#)
- [ENGAGE: Should Puerto Rico or the District of Columbia Become the 51st State?](#)
- [ENGAGE: Can a Woman Be Elected President of the United States?](#)
- [ENGAGE: Should the United States Adopt Instant Runoff/Ranked Choice Voting?](#)

Topic 4: The Rights and Responsibilities of Citizens

- [UNCOVER: Poll Taxes, Literacy Tests, and Voter Restriction Laws](#)
- [ENGAGE: When Should Someone Be Granted Asylum in the United States?](#)
- [ENGAGE: Should the U.S. Adopt Universal Basic Income \(UBI\) or Guaranteed Employment as National Policies?](#)
- [ENGAGE: How Would You Get More People, Especially Young People, to Vote?](#)



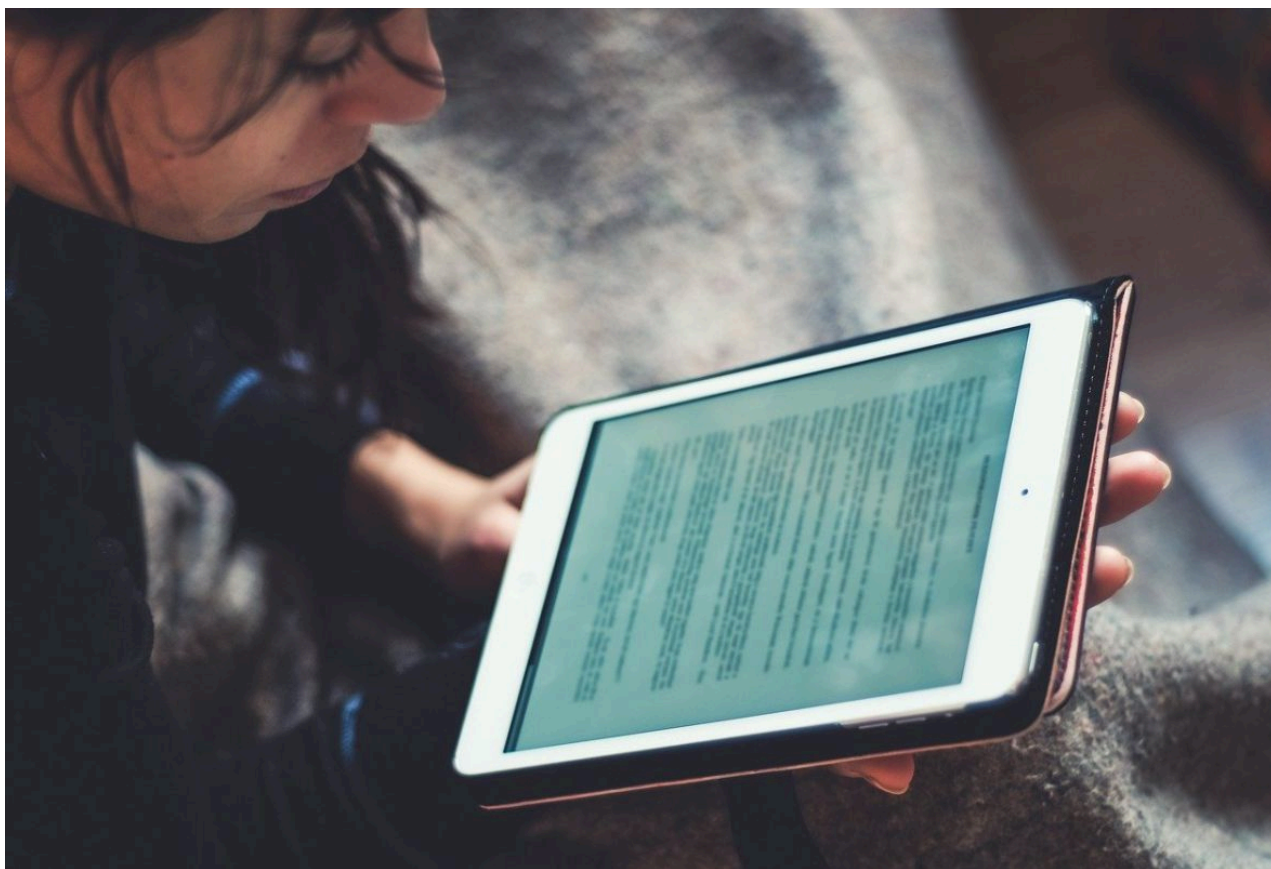
[Vote by Mail](#) by [League of Women Voters of California LWVC](#) is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#)

Topic 5: The Constitution, Amendments, and Supreme Court Decisions

- [ENGAGE: What New Amendments to the Constitution Are Needed Today?](#)
- [ENGAGE: When Can Girls and Boys Compete Together in Athletic Events?](#)
- [ENGAGE: What Steps Should Communities and Governments Take to Reduce Gun Violence?](#)

Topic 6: The Structure of Massachusetts State and Local Government

- [UNCOVER: Gender-Inclusive and Anti-Racist Language and Images in State Constitutions, Laws, and Materials](#)
- [ENGAGE: Should the Government Pay Slavery Reparations for Black Americans?](#)
- [ENGAGE: How Can Teachers and Students Develop LGBTQIA-Inclusive Curriculum in Schools?](#)
- [ENGAGE: What Single-Use Plastic Items Should Local Governments Ban to Help Save the Environment?](#)
- [ENGAGE: How Can Society Eliminate Gender Gaps in Wages and Jobs?](#)
- [ENGAGE: Should States Expand Lotteries to Raise Money for Communities?](#)
- [ENGAGE: Should Communities Declare Themselves Safe or Sanctuary Cities?](#)



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Topic 7: Freedom of the Press and News/Media Literacy

- [ENGAGE: Is Internet Access a Human Right?](#)
- [ENGAGE: Should Facebook and Other Technology Companies Regulate Political Content on Their Social Media Platforms?](#)

Teaching and Learning Resources

- [How Do Political Cartoons Convey Messages about Current Events?](#) The Kennedy Center



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