



American Public Square



Educator Resource Guide

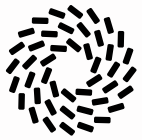


Looking for any specific resources? Email:

carolyn@americanpublicsquare.org

tricia@americanpublicsquare.org

CIVICS CURRICULUM RESOURCES



BUILDERS™



Builders High School Classroom

The Builders High School Classroom curriculum is a framework designed to empower high school teachers to foster braver and more constructive classrooms in America through curiosity, compassion, and courage.



iCivics Resource Library

Civics resource library with K-12 curriculum units, games, lesson plans, professional development materials, videos, and more.



**FACING
HISTORY &
OURSELVES**



Teaching Resources

These resources are designed to engage students with facing history. You will find resources that support teaching a complex moment in history or addressing today's breaking news.

CIVICS CURRICULUM RESOURCES



Power & Character Curriculum

Through reflective discussion prompts, embodied exercises, and texts to study, this resource is designed to help you support students in:

- Deepening their understanding of their own agency and responsibility as a citizen
- Practicing healthy civic habits that they can continue to grow
- Articulating their own civic values, and why it matters to them to participate



Classrooms as Bridging Spaces: Activity Menu for K-12 Educators

Activities to bring the skills of communicating across differences into your classrooms. Whether you have 10 minutes or multiple class periods to dedicate, there are activities and tools that can fit your needs.



Resource Library

Resources for facilitating conversations where people with different perspectives try to understand each other — without giving up their own beliefs — in order to work together.

MEDIA LITERACY RESOURCES



Civic Online Reasoning



COR for the Civics Classroom

Curriculum materials to improve students' ability to evaluate civic information on the internet.



Classroom Materials

Question-based, student-centered, curriculum-driven media analysis using a constructivist media decoding approach.



Various Resources

Balanced news and perspectives, media bias and ratings, dialogue and deliberation opportunities, media literacy tools.



Checkology Virtual Classroom

One-stop shop for teaching news literacy with hundreds of free resources like quizzes, downloadable lesson plans, classroom slides, etc.



TOOLS & STRATEGIES



Bridging Differences Playbook

The Bridging Differences Playbook identifies a set of research-backed skills and strategies that support positive dialogue, relationships, and understanding between groups or individuals.



Fostering Civil Discourse: Difficult Classroom Conversations in a Diverse Democracy

This guide is designed to help teachers hold meaningful and productive conversations with their students about public policies, controversial issues, and current events.



Interventions: 5 Things Facilitators Can Do When Conversations Get Hot

This resource contains five tried-and-true practices to reach for when you need to intervene and get heated conversations back on track.



Read, Talk, Write Framework for Bridging Divides

Grounds instruction in disciplinary practices that promote empathy, critical thinking, and intellectual humility



SAMPLE ACTIVITIES



Constructive
Dialogue
Institute



Structures for Dialogue Activity Guide

Question Design Worksheet for Teachers



heterodox
academy

Dialectical Thinking Activity



essential
PARTNERS

**Building Agreements with the Moments
of Dissent Exercise**



HARVARD
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF EDUCATION

Chalk Talk Exercise



APS CHALK TALK QUOTES

**“HONEST DISAGREEMENT IS OFTEN A GOOD SIGN OF PROGRESS”
-GHANDI**

**“EVERYONE YOU WILL EVER MEET KNOWS SOMETHING YOU
DON'T”
-BILL NYE**

**“HE WHO KNOWS ONLY HIS OWN SIDE OF THE CASE KNOWS
LITTLE OF THAT”
-JOHN STUART MILL**

**“I WANT YOU TO KNOW I VALUE EACH OF YOUR OPINIONS, EVEN
WHEN YOU'RE WRONG”
-TED LASSO**

**“NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL,
COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD; INDEED, IT'S THE
ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS...”
-MARGARET MEADE**

**“IF YOU WANT TO MAKE PEACE WITH YOUR ENEMY, YOU HAVE TO
WORK WITH YOUR ENEMY. THEN HE BECOMES YOUR PARTNER”
-NELSON MANDELA**

**“IF THE INTERNET HAS TAUGHT US ANYTHING, IT'S THAT
SOMETIMES IT'S EASIER TO SPEAK OUR MINDS ANONYMOUSLY”
-TED LASSO**

CONVERSATION GUIDES



**Living Room
Conversations**



Conversation Guides & Resources

Easy-to-use conversation guides on more than 150 topics designed to help everyone feel like they can join the conversation.



Braver Angels



1:1 Conversation Guides

Structured conversation guides for Americans with different backgrounds to connect as people and as citizens who are concerned for our country.



American
Public
Square



essential[®]
PARTNERS
Bold Explorations in Community

Communication Agreements for Conversations Across Divides

- Share the airspace
- “Pass” or “Pass for now” will be accepted.
- Speak from your own experiences; use “I” statements.
- Maintain confidentiality regarding stories and colleagues. Take the learning, but not others’ stories.
- Share at confident; but appropriate level.
- Attend to phones and technology in ways that allow you & others to be as present as possible.

Cultivating Curiosity with ???s to better understand someone.

- *Tell me more (about)...*
- When you say ____, say more about what that means to you.
- What drives you to say ____?
- What is something you could share with me that would help me understand where you are coming from. Is there a story you could share?
- It sounds like you feel ___ is that right?
- What about ___ feels important to you?
- What is the impact on you of ___?
- How did the experience you shared change the way you think/thought about ___?
- What stands out most to you about ___?

SUGGESTED READING

Civil Discourse: Classroom Conversations For Stronger Communities by Joe Schmidt and Nichelle Pinkney

Learning to Depolarize by Ken Lenci

The Case for Contention: Teaching Controversial Issues in American Schools by Jonathan Zimmerman and Emily Robertson

Love Your Enemies: How Decent People Can Save America from the Culture of Contempt by Arthur Brooks

I Never Thought of it That Way by Monica Guzman

Beyond the Politics of Contempt by Becky Robinson, Beth Malow, and Doug Teschner

“Teen Centered Civics for Human Flourishing” from the History Co:Lab

“The Importance of Discussing Controversial Issues in the Classroom - Especially Today” from Democracy Ready New York

“How to Defuse a Classroom Conflict: Make It More Complex” from the Chronicle of Higher Education

Looking for any specific resources? Email:

carolyn@americanpublicsquare.org

tricia@americanpublicsquare.org

****Please note that links change and are not always stable. If you have trouble accessing any of the resources using the QR codes, you should be able to find them by searching the title of the resource and organization.**