











High School iCivics Scope and Sequence

With so many games and over 100 lesson plans (and counting!), teachers often ask us how to approach iCivics resources. There's no "right" way to use iCivics resources. In this document, we've listed all our resources in one place according to the same curriculum units you'll find on our website. Within each unit, we've organized the resources in an order that seems most logical to us. That said, we understand there are many ways to sequence civics. Most of our resources stand alone and don't require teaching another lesson first, so you can feel free to mix and match to meet your needs and the timing of your curriculum. We hope this Scope & Sequence will help you plan your iCivics classroom experience!

Product Overview

iCivics has more than just games! We mix it up with a variety of product types to help you mix it up in the classroom. Here are the iCivics products you'll see in our curriculum units:

 <p>Games Online games cover over 20 civics topics and counting, require no downloading, and are designed to be played in under 45-minutes.</p>	 <p>Extension Packs Wrap around curriculum, including pre- and post-game activities, enrich student learning and reinforce gameplay.</p>	 <p>Lesson Plans Print-and-go digital and PDF lessons are easy to implement, take between 1-2 class periods, and form the core of each unit.</p>	 <p>Mini-Lessons Two-page reading & activity collections can be combined into larger lessons or quickly cover content on their own.</p>
 <p>WebQuests Guided research activities allow students to explore internet resources in safe and informative ways.</p>	 <p>DBQuest Interactive document analysis modules get students up close and personal with primary source documents.</p>	 <p>Videos Brief and purposeful videos introduce students to the people and processes they need to know.</p>	 <p>Simulations Whole-class, web-based experience that guides students through a role play of a fictional Supreme Court case. Each case takes 1-2 class periods.</p>

Things to Know:

The pages that follow detail each unit and the resources they contain. Things to note:

- Games appear in **orange boldface** font
- Lessons that include supports for EL and ML learners are noted with (ELL)
- Resources that are available in Spanish appear with (+ Spanish)
- Resources noted with an (*) appear in more than one unit.

Most of our digital offerings (games, WebQuests, DBQuests, Extension Packs, and mini-lessons) can be used in both middle and high school units.



Unit: Foundations of Government

This unit covers government at its roots— starting with the basics. Students consider how governments are established and maintained by exploring integral characteristics such as power, authority, legitimacy, and sovereignty. Students watch these characteristics at play as they learn about the development of democracy in ancient Athens and Rome, European monarchy, and early political philosophy.

<i>Resources (Suggested Sequence)</i>	<i>Product Type</i>
Foundation Basics	Lesson Plan (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Lessons from Antiquity	Lesson Plan (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Rule by One	Lesson Plan
Philosophically Correct	Lesson Plan (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Familiar But Flawed	Lesson Plan (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Valuing Our Rights*	Lesson Plan

Unit: Influence Library

This library of mini-lessons targets the people, ideas, and events that influenced the development of America's government. Each mini-lesson includes a one-page reading and a one-page activity, and is appropriate for a variety of uses. Unlike the iCivics lesson plans, these mini-lessons are designed for students to complete independently without the need for teacher direction. However, they also make great teacher-directed lessons or even class conversation-starters, and multiple mini-lessons can be combined to make a longer lesson. For ideas on suggested use, see the [Influence Library Teacher's Guide](#).

<i>Resources (Suggested Sequence)</i>	<i>Product Type</i>
Influence Library Teacher's Guide	Teacher's Guide
Cradle of Democracy	Mini-Lesson
Niccolo Machiavelli	Mini-Lesson
The Enlightenment	Mini-Lesson (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Thomas Hobbes	Mini-Lesson
John Locke	Mini-Lesson
Baron de Montesquieu	Mini-Lesson
Jean-Jaques Rousseau	Mini-Lesson
William Blackstone	Mini-Lesson
Founding Mothers	Mini-Lesson
Benjamin Franklin	Mini-Lesson
George Mason	Mini-Lesson
George Washington	Mini-Lesson
Thomas Jefferson	Mini-Lesson
James Madison	Mini-Lesson
Federalist & Anti-Federalists	Mini-Lesson (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Early Rebellions	Mini-Lesson
The Constitutional Convention	Mini-Lesson

Resources are
hyperlinked!



*This resource appears in more than one unit. Use it wherever you think it fits best.

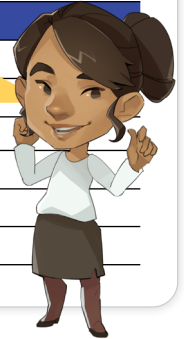


Unit: Road to the Constitution

What led to the creation of the United States Constitution? And how did colonists use their experiences and beliefs of what a government should be to create a uniquely American system? Explore critical documents, governing philosophies, and the events that inspired our American government.

Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
Colonial Beginnings	Lesson Plan
Separate and Sovereign*	Mini-Lesson
Got Grievances?	Lesson Plan (+ Spanish)
Trying Self Government	Lesson Plan (+ Spanish)
Major Clash? Compromise!	Lesson Plan (+ Spanish)
America's Founding Preambles*	DBQuest
Race to Ratify + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack

Resources are hyperlinked!



Unit: The Constitution

Students learn how our Constitution was created and what some of its key characteristics are. They also explore key amendments to the Constitution and their application in protecting citizens' rights.

Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
The Constitution: Rules for Running a Country*	WebQuest
America's Founding Preambles*	DBQuest
Constitutional Compromise + Extension Pack*	Game /Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
Constitutional Influencers	WebQuest
Constitutional Principles	Lesson Plan (+ Spanish)
The Constitution Explained	Video Series
The Federalist Debate	Lesson Plan (+ Spanish)
No Bill of Rights, No Deal	Lesson Plan (+ Spanish)
Do I Have a Right? + Extension Pack*	Game /Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
The Constitution's Cover Letter* DBQuest	DBQuest
Branches of Power + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
Three Branches: Checks & Balances	WebQuest
Hamilton and the National Bank	DBQuest
Changing the Constitution	Lesson Plan (+ Spanish)
Speech and the First Amendment*	Mini-Lesson
Religion and the First Amendment*	Mini-Lesson
Citizenship Clause*	Mini-Lesson
Equal Protection Clause*	Mini-Lesson

The Constitution Explained video series includes 35 short videos that cover all aspects of the U.S. Constitution. They're also available in Spanish! Check out our Constitution Explained [playlists](#) for suggestions on how to group videos together.



* This resource appears in more than one unit. Use it wherever you think it fits best.



Unit: A Growing Nation

In this unit, students learn how the United States began to grow as soon as it became a nation, and they examine the effect of this growth on societies already established in North America.

<i>Resources (Suggested Sequence)</i>	<i>Product Type</i>
Separate and Sovereign*	Mini-Lesson
The Louisiana Purchase (1803)	Lesson Plan
The Louisiana Purchase: Branching Out	DBQuest
Cherokee Resistance	DBQuest
Oregon Treaty (1845)	Lesson Plan
Annexation of Texas (1846)	Lesson Plan
Mexican Cession (1848)	Lesson Plan

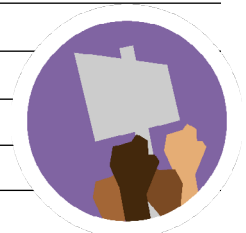
Resources are hyperlinked!



Unit: Pushing Toward Civil Rights

The push towards civil rights in the United States has been longstanding and is ever-evolving. While not encompassing, our civil rights unit covers the expansion and abolition of slavery, women's suffrage, the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s, and the Black Power Movement. The expansion of rights is also explored through several Supreme Court cases. For more coverage, check out additional cases in our [Landmark Library](#).

<i>Resources (Suggested Sequence)</i>	<i>Product Type</i>
Protection and Resistance: Slavery in the U.S.	Lesson
Slave States, Free States	Lesson
Dred Scott v. Sandford (1857)*	Mini-Lesson (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Resisting Slavery	DBQuest
Reconstruction: The Battle Between the Branches	Lesson
Citizenship Clause*	Mini-Lesson
Equal Protection Clause*	Mini-Lesson
The Successes and Failures of Reconstruction	Lesson
Jim Crow: Legislating Inequality	Lesson
Historical Monuments & Meaning	DBQuest
Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)*	Mini-Lesson
Progressing Forward: 1890-1930	Lesson
Changemakers: The NAACP Legal Defense Fund (1940)	Video
Changemakers: The Shelleys and the Right to Fair Housing (1948)	Video
Changemakers: Students and the Struggle for School Integration (1951)	Video
Changemakers: Stepping Forward: The Fight for College Integration (1952)	Video
Brown v. Board of Education (1954)*	Mini-Lesson



* This resource appears in more than one unit. Use it wherever you think it fits best.



Unit: Pushing Toward Civil Rights continued

Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
Little Rock: Executive Order 10730*	DBQuest
Changemakers: Breaking Barriers: Constance Baker Motley	Video
The Nashville Sit-ins (1960)	DBQuest
The Tactics of the Civil Rights Movement	WebQuest
Civil Rights Act of 1964*	Mini-Lesson
Voting Rights Act of 1965*	Mini-Lesson
Ethel Payne: First Lady of the Black Press	Video
Loving v. Virginia (1967)*	Mini-Lesson
Power to the People	Lesson
Woman Suffrage and World War I	WebQuest
A Movement in the Right Direction	Infographic (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Movement & Action: The Women's Suffrage Movement	WebQuest
Patsy Mink: Changing the Rules*	Video

The Changemaker video series and the Ethel Payne and Patsy Mink videos are 2–3 minutes in length. They also come with Teacher Guides that include additional biographical information, class discussion questions, and timeline activities.



Unit: The Legislative Branch

Discover the structure, function, and powers of the legislative branch of government. Students explore the legislative process as well as the influence of citizens and political parties.

Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
First Branch: Legislative	Lesson Plan (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Congressional Leadership	Mini-Lesson
Leadership and the Agenda	Infographic (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Congressional Committees	Mini-Lesson
Making Laws	WebQuest
Can You BILL-ieve It?	Infographic (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Filibusters	Mini-Lesson
LawCraft* + Extension Pack*	Game /Extension Pack (<i>ELL + Spanish</i>)
Legislating for Holiday	WebQuest
Patsy Mink: Changing the Rules*	Video
Representation	Lesson Plan
Who Represents Me?*	WebQuest
Midterm Elections*	Mini-Lesson
The Incumbent Advantage*	Mini-Lesson

Resources are hyperlinked!



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Unit: The Executive Branch

Students learn about the executive branch, including the unique role and powers of the president and the function of executive departments and agencies.

Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
Executive Command + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
Why President?	Lesson Plan
Second Branch, the Executive	Lesson Plan
Popular v. President*	Lesson Plan
Being President	WebQuest
The Presidential Agenda	Mini-Lesson
Six Roles of the President	Infographic
Presidential Appointments	Mini-Lesson
Cabinet Building	Lesson Plan
Veto Power	Mini-Lesson
What Can a First Spouse Do?	WebQuest
Brief the Chief + Extension Pack	Game / Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
Supreme Court Nominations*	Lesson Plan
Pardon Power	Mini-Lesson
Order Up! Executive Orders	Infographic
Executive Orders	Mini-Lesson
Little Rock: Executive Order 10730*	DBQuest
Shedding a Light on a State of Emergency*	Infographic (+ Spanish)
The First 100 Days	Mini-Lesson
The Modern President	Lesson Plan
Foreign Policy	Lesson Plan
Convene the Council + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
Succession	Mini-Lesson
Vice President	Mini-Lesson
Impeachment & Conviction	Infographic (+ Spanish)
Peaceful Transfer of Power	Infographic (+ Spanish)



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Resources are hyperlinked!





Unit: The Judicial Branch

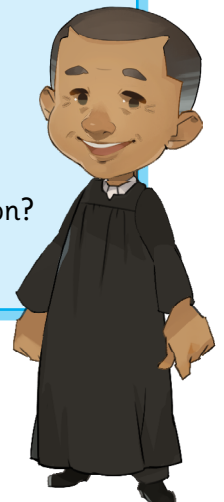
What do the courts do? Students explore the state and federal courts' role in fairly settling disputes and administering justice as well as the unique role of the U.S. Supreme Court in interpreting the U.S. Constitution.

Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
The Courts in a Nutshell*	WebQuest
Double Take: The Dual Court System	Lesson Plan (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Trial and Appeal	Infographic (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Court Quest + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack (<i>ELL</i> + <i>Spanish</i>)
In the Courts	WebQuest
Trial Court (Mock Trial)	Lesson Plan
Let's Talk About Independence	WebQuest
Judicial Review	Lesson Plan (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Supreme Interpreters	WebQuest
Marbury v. Madison (1803)*	Mini-Lesson
McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)*	Lesson Plan
Supreme Court Nominations*	Lesson Plan (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Supreme Court Opinions	Mini-Lesson
Judicial Activism & Restraint	Mini-Lesson
Argument Wars + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack (<i>ELL</i> + <i>Spanish</i>)
You Be the Judge (Role Play)	Lesson Plan
Stipulating Speech	Lesson Plan
Supreme Decision: Student Free Speech	Simulation
Supreme Decision: Student Due Process	Simulation



Resources are
hyperlinked!

Simulations are whole-class, web-based experiences that allow students to assume the roles of Petitioner, Respondent, or Justice as they examine First Amendment rights in a fictional Supreme Court case. Want to learn what happens during a simulation? Check out this [link](#).



* This resource appears in more than one unit. Use it wherever you think it fits best.



Unit: Landmark Library

This library of mini-lessons targets a variety of landmark cases from the United States Supreme Court. Each mini-lesson includes a one-page reading and a one-page activity. These brief mini-lessons have a variety of uses. Use as teacher-directed lessons, assign individually, incorporate as primers or for review, or start a class conversation. Landmark Library mini-lessons cover a variety of topics and can be added at any point within a unit. For ideas on suggested use, see our [Meet the Supremes Teacher's Guide](#).

Resources	Product Type
Meet the Supremes Teacher's Guide	Teacher's Guide
The Research Roadmap	Graphic Organizer
Marbury v. Madison (1803)*	Mini-Lesson
McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)*	Lesson Plan
Gibbons v. Ogden (1824)	Mini-Lesson
Dred Scott v. Sandford (1857)*	Mini-Lesson (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Elk v. Wilkins (1884)*	Mini-Lesson
Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)*	Mini-Lesson
United States v. Wong Kim Ark (1898)*	Mini-Lesson
Minersville v. Gobitas (1940)	Mini-Lesson
West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette (1943)	Mini-Lesson
Korematsu v. United States (1944)	Mini-Lesson
Brown v. Board of Education (1954)*	Mini-Lesson
Gideon v. Wainwright (1963)	Mini-Lesson
Miranda v. Arizona (1966)	Mini-Lesson
In re Gault (1967)	Mini-Lesson
Loving v. Virginia (1967)*	Mini-Lesson
Tinker v. Des Moines (1969)	Mini-Lesson
Lau v. Nichols (1974)	Mini-Lesson
U.S. v. Nixon (1974)	Mini-Lesson
Bethel School District v. Fraser (1986)	Mini-Lesson
Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier (1988)	Mini-Lesson
Lyng v. Northwest Indian Cemetery Protective Association (1988)	Mini-Lesson
Texas v. Johnson (1989)	Mini-Lesson
United States v. Virginia (1996)	Mini-Lesson
PGA Tour, Inc. v. Martin (2001)	Mini-Lesson
Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010)	Mini-Lesson
Clapper v. Amnesty International (2013)	Mini-Lesson
EEOC v. Abercrombie & Fitch (2015)	Mini-Lesson
Obergefell v. Hodges (2015)	Mini-Lesson

**Resources are
hyperlinked!**



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Unit Legal Reference Library

Sometimes the textbook definition isn't enough! Our collection of Legal Reference Sheets provides students with a deeper understanding of important laws, rights, and legal concepts in a flash. Part-infographic, part-written text, these mini-lessons consist of a one-page reading and a page of activities to reinforce the concepts learned. The lessons can be used individually, or as a compliment to another lesson or case from the *Landmark Library*.

Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
Separate and Sovereign*	Mini-Lesson
Religion and the First Amendment*	Mini-Lesson
Speech and the First Amendment*	Mini-Lesson
Citizenship Clause*	Mini-Lesson
Equal Protection Clause*	Mini-Lesson
Civil Rights Act of 1964*	Mini-Lesson
Voting Rights Act of 1965*	Mini-Lesson
USA PATRIOT Act of 2001	Mini-Lesson

Unit: State and Local Government

Our State Government high school unit covers a range of concepts related to federalism as well as state government structures and functions, and it zooms in on the state-level lawmaking process.

Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
Power to the States!	Lesson Plan
What States Do	Lesson Plan
States Rule!	WebQuest
State Legislatures	Lesson Plan
State Lawmaking	Lesson Plan
State Executive Branch	Lesson Plan (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
Shedding a Light on a State of Emergency*	Infographic (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
State-Federal Tug-of-War	Lesson Plan
Crisis Collaboration: COVID-19	Mini-Lesson
Counties Work + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack (<i>ELL</i> + <i>Spanish</i>)
County Government	Lesson Plan
County Contributions	Infographic (+ <i>Spanish</i>)
County Basics	WebQuest
Municipal Government	Lesson Plan
Tribal Government	Lesson Plan
Who Represents Me?*	WebQuest
Cast Your Vote + Extension Pack*	Game /Extension Pack (<i>ELL</i> + <i>Spanish</i>)
The Spectrum of State Election Laws*	Infographic (+ <i>Spanish</i>)

Resources are
hyperlinked!



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Unit Elections & Voting

This unit introduces students to the American political system. Students learn how our elections work, what role political parties play in our system, and how citizens hold a wide range of political views. This unit gives students the tools they need to make informed choices and encourages them toward civic involvement. We also provide an [Election Glossary](#) on the unit page.

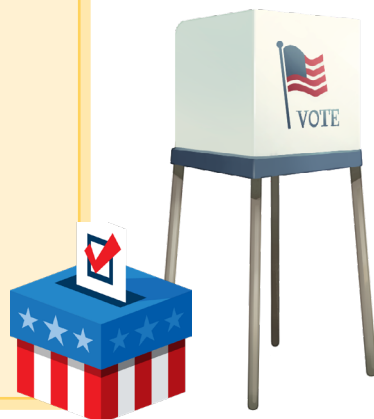
Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
Voting: Will You Do It?	Lesson Plan
The Spectrum of State Election Laws*	Infographic (+ Spanish)
Rank Your Choice	Infographic (+ Spanish)
Voting by Mail	WebQuest
Party Systems	Mini-Lesson
Parties, Primaries, Caucuses & Conventions	Lesson Plan
Running for President	Infographic (+ Spanish)
Campaigning: It's a Process	Lesson Plan
Campaign Cash	Infographic (+ Spanish)
Win the White House + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
Popular v. President	Lesson Plan
Cast Your Vote +Extension Pack*	Game /Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
Students Power Elections	Lesson Plan
The Poll Picture	Infographic (+ Spanish)
Midterm Elections*	Mini-Lesson
Midterm Math	Infographic (+ Spanish)
Reapportionment & Redistricting	WebQuest
Gerrymandering	Mini-Lesson
Gerrymandering: Where Do We Draw the Line?	Infographic (+ Spanish)

Is It an Election Year?

Consider adding these resources to your coverage of the election:

- ✓ Election Glossary
- ✓ Political Debate Guide
- ✓ Candidate Report Card
- ✓ Election Results Tracker

For more election materials visit our [Election Headquarters](#).



Resources are hyperlinked!

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Unit: Citizenship and Participation

What does it mean to be a U.S. citizen? How do you become a citizen? Students compare and contrast personal and political rights with social responsibilities and personal duties. Students will explore global citizenship and the rights and responsibilities of citizens in other countries.

Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
Plug Into Power with the U.S. Census	Infographic (+ Spanish)
Sortify: U.S. Citizenship	Game
Do I Have a Right? + Extension Pack*	Game /Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
Civic Heroism	WebQuest
Kids Making a Difference—Garden Edition	DBQuest
Women in Service	DBQuest
Immigration Nation + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
Immigration: Pathway to Citizenship	Lesson Plan
Immigration & Citizenship	WebQuest
Citizenship Clause*	Mini-Lesson
Neighborhood Good + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack (ELL + Spanish)
United States v. Wong Kim Ark (1898)*	Mini-Lesson
Elk v. Wilkins (1884)*	Mini-Lesson



Unit: Applying Rights & Liberties

In this unit, students learn the difference between civil rights and liberties and identify them through analysis of the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and other primary sources. Students also gain an understanding of how their rights and liberties can be expanded or limited by the government.

Resources (Suggested Sequence)	Product Type
Give Us Liberties and Give Us Rights	Lesson Plan
First and Foremost: Five Freedoms of the First Amendment	Lesson Plan
Freedom of the Press	Lesson Plan
Accused? Know Your Rights	Lesson Plan
Nothing Absolute about Rights	Lesson Plan
Expanding Protections	Lesson Plan
Valuing our Rights	Lesson Plan

Resources are
hyperlinked!



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Unit: Public Policy

In this unit, students learn what public policy is and who creates, implements, and influences it. Through case studies, scenarios, and possible role-playing, students discover how difficult it is to create a public policy that meets the needs of the majority and the level of compromise needed for its adoption.

<i>Resources (Suggested Sequence)</i>	<i>Product Type</i>
Public Policy 101	Lesson Plan
The Public in Public Policy	Lesson Plan
Policy Promotion: Politicians and the Media	Mini-Lesson
Managing the Media	Mini-Lesson
Leveling Public Policy	Lesson Plan
Putting Policy into Action	Lesson Plan
Public Policy Research Guide	Graphic Organizer

Unit: County Solutions Civic Action Plan

In this 10-step lesson series, students learn and practice research, analysis, and advocacy skills as they strategize a plan to “move the needle” on their chosen issue. Students examine the broad context of their issues—including the role of county and other levels of government—and focus on bringing about local change using strategies tailored to their individual issues.

<i>Resources (Suggested Sequence)</i>	<i>Product Type</i>
County Solutions Overview	Teacher’s Guide
Step 1: Change the World?	Lesson Plan
Step 2: Find What You Need	Lesson Plan
Step 3: Become an Expert	Lesson Plan
Step 4: Consider the Context	Lesson Plan
Step 5: Identify Your Stakeholders	Lesson Plan
Step 6: Plan Your Attack	Lesson Plan
Step 7: Fill the Holes	Lesson Plan
Step 8: Talk It Up	Lesson Plan
Step 9: Grab People’s Attention	Lesson Plan
Step 10: Make Your Pitch	Lesson Plan

Resources are
hyperlinked!





Unit: News Literacy

Our News Literacy unit teaches students to recognize high-standards journalism so they can make informed judgments about the information coming at them. Students get practical skills to help them identify and deal with misinformation, bias, opinion, and more. Unlike resources in our other units, the lessons here build on each other and presume they've been taught in order.

<i>Resources (Suggested Sequence)</i>	<i>Product Type</i>
NewsFeed Defenders + Extension Pack	Game /Extension Pack
Lesson 1: Journalism	Lesson Plan
Mini-Lesson A: Monetization	Mini-Lesson & Web Activity
Lesson 2: Misinformation	Lesson Plan
Mini-Lesson B: Satire	Mini-Lesson & Web Activity
Lesson 3: Bias	Lesson Plan
Mini-Lesson C: Algorithms & You	Mini-Lesson & Web Activity
Lesson 4: Opinion & Analysis	Lesson Plan
Mini-Lesson D: Privacy Policies & You	Mini-Lesson & Web Activity



Curriculum Updates!

We regularly add new resources to our curriculum. But we're a small—and busy team—and we don't always update this Scope & Sequence document the moment a new resource is born. (Our apologies!) Be sure to check [iCivics.org](https://www.icivics.org) to see if anything new and exciting has been added to the curriculum unit you're teaching! And if you're using a downloaded copy of this document, check our [Teach Page](#) to make sure you've got the latest version.