

Unit: Youth in Government

Name of Teacher: Darlene ODell

Subject Area: WV History

Grade Level: 8

Cross Curricular Opportunities: Language Arts (writing, speaking), Math (counting percentages), Religion (ethical choices), 21st Century Goals (technology, mock-trial)

Overview of the Unit: This month-long unit gives eighth graders a hands-on introduction to civics. They learn the rights and responsibilities that come with being a citizen. They visit the local courthouse and the state capitol. They participate in a mock trial. Each student also completes in class objectives through their textbooks, Google Classroom on the iPad and various classroom activities.

Forms of Text: Non fiction textbook , State Bluebook

Teaching Strategies: Direct Instruction

Field Trip

Vocabulary Acquisition

Cause and Effect Model

Google Form Survey

Catholic Identity Connections: USCCB-Option C- Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ

Assessment: (Authentic/Published- Summative/Formative)

Participation check-list

Quick Quizzes, Daily Trivia, Quizlet test on vocabulary

Chapter Review for textbook

Chapter Test

Standard Number	Standards
SS.8.2	Evaluate how citizens can influence and participate in government at local, state and national levels and assume the role of an active citizen participating in the democratic process
SS.8.4	Differentiate between the division of powers and responsibilities for each of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the government
SS.8.5	Predict the outcome of selected proposed bills in a current legislative session and assume the role of a lawmaker in a mock legislature to pass a bill

Description of the Activity	Resources	Timeline
google form student survey/ share	ipad/ google form	1 day
field trips (Harrison County Courthouse, Charleston Capitol, Federal Courthouse)	Susan Thomas (county clerk) Doug Wetsch (yla leader)	4 days
lecture/ notes	note worksheet follow -through	2 days
mock - legislation practice	creative option (student choice)	2 days
Online testing practice, Quizlette (study and testing resources)	wvculture.org, quick quizzes, daily Trivia, quizlett	ngoing throughout unit -approximately 4 weeks.

Differentiated Instruction Opportunities/Overview:

technology- online surveys (self-evaluation), quizlette, quick Quizzes, Daily Trivia
group instruction/ direct teaching
Field Trips (Harrison County Courthouse, Capitol in Charleston)

Cross Curricular Opportunities Level:

Language Arts- speech writing/ presentation, mock trial speaking engagements
Math- counting percentage for passing elections, bills in legislation
religion- meditation, ethical decision- making

Common Core Checklist (Mark with an "X" all that apply, feel free to add your own)

Paragraph
Essay (Narratives, fairy tales, realistic fiction)
Summary
Research
Detailed answers (Text supported)
Notes (note taking skills, outlines)
Complete Sentences

Informational Text
Lexile
Complex Literature
Speaking
Listening
Varied Strategies and instructional methods Critical Thinking in whole class discussion
Student led activities

Literature Circles

iPads/Chromebooks/Other Mobile Devices
Use of Internet
PowerPoint/other
Other (Please describe)

Used multiple resources
Domain Vocabulary
Cross-Curricular
Collaborative engagement (meaningful feedback)
Higher level learning and teaching

Project based

	Writing prompt
	Observation
	Quiz
	Technology based
	Test
	Presentation
	Think, pair, share
	Oral questioning
	PowerPoint, or Movie Maker Project

	Various activities
	Inquiry, research and evidence
	Evidence of time management and planning
	Problem solving strategies

Reflection of the Unit: This is the third year I've used this unit. As with any educational opportunity, it improves with my comfort level and knowledge. The visit to the courthouse was extremely valuable this year as the students were able to help with and witness early voting during a major election year.

The Youth and Government Experience is getting better with each year's attendance. Our student participated fully and interacted with our representatives in such a positive manner.