

## Post-Election 2016 Teaching Resources From the DOE's Office of Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Learning

When accessing the resources listed below, teachers should be mindful of what is most appropriate given the age of their students. Our goal is to encourage students to become critical thinkers who are respectful of others and who listen to and consider multiple points of view using reason and evidence from a range of reliable sources. Discussions with younger students might center on tolerance, how all people should treat each other, and the kind of environment we want for our classrooms and our community. Older students might analyze the U.S. political system and the role of civil disobedience and political activism. Most importantly, they can begin to consider their futures as active participants in a diverse and democratic society.

### Supporting Students' Questions & Concerns

- [How schools are dealing with post-election fallout](#) by PBS News Hour (ES/MS/HS)
- [The Election is Over, But for Teachers, Hard Conversations are Just Beginning](#) by Madeline Will, Education Week (ES/MS/HS)
- [What to Say to Kids on November 10 and the Days After](#) by Teaching Tolerance (ES/MS/HS)
- [The Day After](#) by Teaching Tolerance (ES/MS/HS)
- [After the Election: Ideas for Teachers of ELLs](#) by ColorinColorado.org
- [10 Myths About Immigration](#) by Teaching Tolerance (MS/HS)
- [Using Photographs to Expose Anti-Immigrant Sentiment](#) by Teaching Tolerance (MS/HS)
- [An Educator's Guide to the Immigration Debate](#) by Teaching Tolerance (MS/HS)
- [Polarized Classrooms](#) by Teaching Tolerance (HS)
- [Election Emotions: Sharing & Community-Building](#) by Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility (ES) <http://www.morningsidecenter.org/teachable-moment/lessons/election-emotions-sharing-community-building>
- [Addressing Election Anxiety](#) by Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility (ES/MS/HS) <http://www.morningsidecenter.org/teachable-moment/lessons/addressing-election-anxiety>
- [What Next?: How to Move Forward Together After a Divisive Election](#) by Facing History and Ourselves (MS/HS)
- [Fostering Civil Discourse: A Guide for Classroom Conversations](#) by Facing History and Ourselves (MS/HS)
- [Returning to the Classroom after the Election](#) by University of Michigan: Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (MS/HS)
- [Guidelines for Discussing Difficult or Controversial Topics](#) by University of Michigan: Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (MS/HS)

- [Handling Controversial Topics in Discussion](#) by University of Michigan: Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (Upper ES/MS/HS)
- [Guidelines for Discussing Incidents of Hate, Bias, and Discrimination](#) by University of Michigan: Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (Upper ES/MS/HS)
- [“I’m Going to Reassure Them They Are Safe: Talking to Students After the Election”](#) by National Education Association (ES/MS/HS)
- [Helping Kids and Teens Navigate an Election Year](#) by Regan McMahon, CNN (ES/MS/HS)
- [I’m Going to Reassure Them That They Are Safe’: Talking to Students After the Election](#) by Cindy Long, NEAToday (ES/MS/HS)
- [Ensuring Safe, Welcoming, and Bias-free Schools: Resources for Educators, Students, and Families to Counter Hateful Rhetoric and Foster Positive Dialogue](#) by NEA
- The I Learn America Viewers' Guide, created by Facing History and NYCDOE, is available as a free PDF download. The film is about Brooklyn International High school at Lafayette and it illustrates the importance of how a nation welcomes its newcomers.  
<https://www.facinghistory.org/books-borrowing/i-learn-america-viewers-guide>

## **Understanding the Election, Transition, Presidency, Checks and Balances**

### **The Election**

- [How We Voted Map](#) by Scholastic (ES)
- [Presidency of the United States](#) by Scholastic (Upper ES/MS/HS)
- [An Election to Remember](#) by Time for Kids (Upper Elementary/MS)
- [Election Videos and Lessons](#) by PBS NewsHour Extra (MS/HS)

### **The Electoral College**

- [Debate: Does the Electoral College Make Sense?](#) by Time for Kids (Upper Elementary/MS)
- [A Defense of the Electoral College](#) by EDSITEment (MS/HS)
- [How the Electoral College Works](#) by 60-Second Civics, Center for Civic Education (MS/HS)
- [The Electoral College and the Constitution](#) by C-SPAN (MS/HS)
- [Electoral College Pros/Cons and Alternatives](#) by C-SPAN (MS/HS)
- [Case Study: Is the System Fair?](#) By Newseum (MS/HS)

### **Presidential Transitions**

- [President Obama on Presidential Transition video](#) by C-SPAN (MS/HS)
- [Presidential Transitions after an Election](#) by C-SPAN (MS/HS)
- [Understanding presidential transitions](#) article from 2001 by CNNfyi.com (MS/HS)
- [Lesson plan: Making the transition](#) article from 2001 by CNNfyi.com (MS/HS)

### **Presidential Roles and Responsibilities**

- [The President's Roles and Responsibilities: Understanding the President's Job](#) by EDSITEment (ES/MS/HS)
- [The Executive Branch](https://www.whitehouse.gov/1600/executive-branch) (Upper ES/MS/HS) <https://www.whitehouse.gov/1600/executive-branch>
- [Roles & Powers of the President](#) by NC Civic Education Consortium (MS/HS)
- [The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden](http://americanhistory.si.edu/exhibitions/american-presidency) by The National Museum of American History (ES/MS/HS) <http://americanhistory.si.edu/exhibitions/american-presidency>
- [How Important Is the US President – or Any Leader?](#) By George Friedman, Geopolitical Futures (HS)

### Branches of Government

- [Time for Kids Explains... Branches of Government](#) by Time for Kids (Upper Elementary/MS)
- [Balancing Three Branches at Once: Our System of Checks and Balances](#) by EDSITEment (Upper ES/MS/HS)
- [Executive Branch & Checks and Balances](#) by The Center for Civic Education (Upper Elementary/MS/HS)
- [Who Has the Power](#) Checks and Balances by Colonial Williamsburg (MS/HS)
- [Checks and Balances](#) by DOCSTeach (MS/HS)
- [www.iCivics.org](http://www.iCivics.org) – Retired Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's website focused on civic education and civic participation.

### Media

- [Is That a Fact?: Understanding Persuasive Strategies in Election Campaigns](#) by Scholastic (Upper Elementary)
- [The Press and the Presidency: Friend or Foe? How is the President Portrayed?](#) By Newseum (MS/HS)
- [A Free and Open Press: Evaluating the Media](#) by PBS.org (HS)
- [Savvy Surfers: Website Evaluation and Media Literacy](#) by Kari Lomanno, ala.org (MS)