Bring your students to stay at National 4-H Youth Conference Center



And see how a Wonders of Washington Itinerary



Can align with Massachusetts State Education Standards

Grade Five: United States History, Geography, Economics, and Government

Learning Objective	WOW efforts to reach objective
Give examples of the responsibilities and powers	The Action on the Hill workshop breaks down the specific roles of the
associated with major federal and state officials (e.g., the	three branches of government and allows students to identify the people
President, chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court,	who work in those roles.
governor, state senators, and state representatives).	Throughout the city students are able to see the three branches of
	government at work. A visit to the Capitol building gives students the
	opportunity to visit where their senators and representatives work.
Describe the life and achievements of important leaders	Throughout WOW commentary, students will hear different examples of
during the Revolution and the early years of the United	the decisions and impacts of our Founding Fathers, from the writers of
States.	the Declaration of Independence at the National Archives to our early
	presidents at their memorials.
Explain the reasons for the adoption of the Articles of	A trip to the National Archives shows students the history behind the
Confederation in 1781 and for its later failure.	Charters of Freedom.
Describe the responsibilities of government at the federal,	Throughout the city Program Assistants show students how the federal
state, and local levels (e.g., protection of individual rights	government is in action, relating it back to their local and state
and the provision of services such as law enforcement and	government while defining the differences.
the building and funding of schools).	
Identify the three branches of the United States	During our Action on the Hill workshop, students discuss the roles of the
government as outlined by the Constitution, describe their	three branches of government. All students contribute to explain how the
functions and relationships, and identify what features of	checks and balances system works, witnessing the unique role of each
the Constitution were unique at the time (e.g., the	branch.
presidency and the independent judiciary).	
Identify the key issues that contributed to the onset of the	At several points throughout the DC metro area, Program Assistants
Civil War.	discuss the Civil War, where the government stood prior and during the
	war, and key leaders of the time such as Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee,
	and Ulysses S. Grant are exposed at many points.

US History I: Revolution through Reconstruction

Learning Objective	WOW efforts to reach objective
Explain the influence and ideas of the Declaration of	During our Nightview tour, students go to the Thomas Jefferson
Independence and the political philosophy of Thomas	Memorial where Program Assistants discuss his contributions to the
Jefferson.	developing nation, his unique values and political philosophy.
Explain the characteristics of American democracy,	During commentary, there are many references to how our nation was
including the concepts of popular sovereignty and	formed. The Action on the Hill workshop covers the three branches of
constitutional government, which includes representative	government and how they are limited by the system of checks and
institutions, federalism, separation of powers, shared	balances. At the National Archives students see these characteristics in
powers, checks and balances, and individual rights.	action through the amendments of the Constitution.
Describe the evolution of the role of the federal	At the FDR memorial students can see many examples of how policies
government, including public services, taxation, economic	changed in order to protect the American people, economy, and
policy, foreign policy, and common defense.	government. Other changes are noted throughout commentary.
Explain the rights and the responsibilities of citizenship	The Citizenship Toolbox workshop has students create their own
and describe how a democracy provides opportunities for	definition of citizenship and how they can apply it to their own lives. This
citizens to participate in the political process through	includes a discussion of how citizens have the right be involved in their
elections, political parties, and interest groups.	government and in their communities.

US History II: Reconstruction to the Present

Learning Objective	WOW efforts to reach objective
Explain how the Great Depression and the New Deal	FDR became president during the Great Depression. The FDR Memorial
affected American society. Analyze the important	shows the despair Americans felt and the hope FDR promised. Program
polices, institutions, and personalities of the New Deal	Assistants discuss different aspects of the New Deal, and students can see
era.	depictions of how the New Deal impacted the American people.
Explain the strength of American isolationism after	At the FDR Memorial, Program Assistants discuss the state of American
World War I and analyze its impact on U.S. foreign	isolationism and how it influenced the decisions about involvement in
policy.	World War II.
Explain important domestic events that took place during World War II.	Students can see both the FDR Memorial and the WWII memorial. At both of these locations, Program Assistants discuss the causes and effects
uaring w oria w ar 11.	of how this war impacted the American people on the home front, and
	how the actions of those stateside were equally important to those in
	battle.
Analyze the origins, goals, and key events of the Civil	A visit to the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial shows students different
Rights movement. Describe the accomplishments of the	symbols of the Civil Rights movements and how they impacted history.
civil rights movement.	Students may see artifacts of the movement at the American History
	Museum.

American Government

Learning Objective	WOW efforts to reach objective
Define the terms citizenship, politics, and government, and give examples of how political solutions to public	Our Citizenship in Action workshop has students discuss citizenship, its' definition, and how it relates to other things like politics and government.
policy problems are generated through interactions of citizens and civil associations with their government.	During the discussion of citizenship, students see how they can apply those principles to their own lives.
Explain the formal process of how a bill becomes a law and define the terms initiative and referendum.	Our Action on the Hill workshop has students determine the order of events required to create and pass a bill, then go through the process of writing their own bill and presenting it to a mock legislative branch.
Identify current state and local legislative issues and examine the influence on the legislative process of political parties, interest groups, grass roots organizations, lobbyists, public opinion, the news media, and individual voters.	Throughout commentary, Program Assistants mention lobbyists and interest groups. Students see many different organization headquarters and protesters throughout the DC metro area. An optional visit to the Newseum shows students how their first amendment right can affect politics.
Analyze and evaluate decisions by the United States Supreme Court about the constitutional principles of separation of powers and checks and balances in landmark cases.	The Action on the Hill workshop discussed the three branches of government and how they all are limited by the checks and balances system. A visit to the Supreme Court allows students to see where historic decisions have been made.
Identify and explain powers that the United States Constitution gives to the President and Congress in the area of foreign affairs	The Action on the Hill workshop discusses the roles of congress and the President regarding a number of issues, including foreign affairs. On a trip down Embassy Row, Program Assistants discuss with students the relevance of foreign affairs in the capitol and identify the State Department building.
Explain and evaluate participation by the United States government in international organizations.	The United Nations, Organization of American States, and the European Union are mentioned throughout commentary. Program Assistants mention some difference in these organizations as well as their relevance to the United States, and our changes in involvement through time.
Describe roles of citizens in Massachusetts and the United States, including voting in public elections, participating in voluntary associations to promote the common good, and participating in political activities to influence public policy decisions of government.	The Citizenship Toolbox workshop has students determine their own, collaborative, definition of citizenship and practice it in their own lives. On a tour of the Capitol, students see the state statues of Massachusetts in Statuary Hall.



