You Can Vote's (YCV) ACTIVATE workshop is an inquiry-based civic engagement learning experience designed for high school students to engage in active discussion and practical skill-building. Connecting with Civic Literacy and American History curricula, YCV educators will lead students through a series of activities and games that facilitates critical thinking through student-driven discussion of an essential question from each unit of the curriculum. YCV's program activates young people to seek out trusted information, make personal connections, and take informed civic action. YCV offers workshops directly integrated with each unit to connect curriculum with current civic engagement practices.

AMERICAN HISTORY UNIT 1: THE FOUNDING ERA, 1754 → 1800

Time: 55-minute in-class workshop

Essential Question: How does the US Constitution shape the lives of Americans?

Outcomes: Students will be able to:
- Understand that there is a delicate balance that must be maintained between the powers of the government and the voice of the people
- Understand that the power to govern in a democratic system is divided among different groups which, at times, are at odds with each other over how best to govern.
- That the Constitution is made up of compromises and, as a result, conflicts arose over the interpretation of the Constitution

Focus Standards:
- AH.C&G.1 - Evaluate the relationship between the American people and the government in the terms of freedom, equality, and power
- AH.C&G.2 - Analyze the American Political System in terms of conflict, compromise, and consequence

Vocabulary: compromise, congress, federal, rights, laws, responsibility

Activities:
- **YCV Introduction** - Who we are, why we are there, where to find trusted election information from non-partisan sources
- **Vote with Your Feet** - Through an interactive, guided discussion students will engage in a discussion based on statements surrounding the essential question “How does the US Constitution shape the lives of Americans?”
- **Balance of Power** - Class is broken up into four groups and given a lens - economic, social, moral/ethical, safety. The class is presented with a choice that needs to be made by a position. Each group has 3 minutes to come up with arguments based on their focus. The facilitator will point to each group to argue their point through the lens. How do we make decisions based on competing facts and compromise?
- **Voter Registration** - Students can choose to register to vote and will be guided through how to fill out the form correctly and understand the process.
AMERICAN HISTORY UNIT 2: FORGING A NATION

Time: 55-minute in-class workshop

Essential Question: How do conflict and compromise shape government and society?

Outcomes: Students will be able to:
- Understand that governmental policies and actions that promote national growth and expansion can create sectional tension and political debate
- Movements for change and reform often become necessary when the relationship between a nation and its ideals are conflicting

Focus Standards:
- AH.C&G.1 - Evaluate the relationship between the American people and the government in terms of freedom, equality, and power
- AH.C&G.2 - Analyze the American Political system in terms of conflict, compromise, and consequence

Vocabulary: compromise, power, balance, justice, rights

Activities:
- YCV Introduction - Who we are, why we are there, where to find trusted election information from non-partisan sources.
- Vote with Your Feet - Through an interactive, guided discussion students will engage in a discussion based on statements surrounding the essential question “How do conflict and compromise shape government and society?”
- Balance of Power - Class is broken up into four groups and given a lens - economic, social, moral/ethical, safety. The class is presented with a choice that needs to be made by a position. Each group has 3 minutes to come up with arguments based on their focus. The facilitator will point to each group to argue their point through the lens. How do we make decisions based on competing facts and compromise?
- Voter Registration - Students can choose to register to vote and will be guided through how to fill out the form correctly and understand the process.
AMERICAN HISTORY UNIT 3: A GILDED REPUBLIC

Time: 55-minute in-class workshop

Essential Question: To what extent is America a land of opportunity?

Outcomes: Students will be able to:
- Understand that the strategies used to achieve reform produce varying degrees of success and opposition
- There are advantages and disadvantages to having a free market system
- Know to what extent the US Government took responsibility for the protection of human rights and civil liberties in the South during this time (1800 → 1865).

Focus Standards:
- AH.B.1 Evaluate the relationship between the American people and the government in terms of freedom, equality, and power.
- AH. C&G.2 - Analyze the American Political System in terms of conflict, compromise, and consequence.

Vocabulary: rights, power, organize, discrimination, voting

Activities:
- **YCV Introduction** - Who we are, why we are there, where to find trusted election information from non-partisan sources.
- **Vote with Your Feet** - Through an interactive, guided discussion students will engage in a discussion based on statements surrounding the essential question “To what extent is America a land of opportunity?”
- **Create Your Campaign** - The class works in small groups to solve a problem in their community. Students will then pitch to their peers the idea for the campaign, giving students the opportunity to vote on where they would like to donate their time to help solve a community issue.
- **Voter Registration** - Students have the option to complete registration and will be guided through how to fill out the form correctly and understand the process.
AMERICAN HISTORY UNIT 4: GLOBALIZATION

Time: 55-minute in-class workshop

Essential Question: How have political divisions changed American society?

Outcomes: Students will be able to:
- Analyze and evaluate Social Studies topics and issues in order to communicate conclusions and take informed action.
- Know what political polarization is, and its causes and consequences for America’s government.

Focus Standards:
- AH.C&G.1 - Evaluate the relationship between the American people and the government in terms of freedom, equality, and power.
- AH.C&G.2 - Analyze the American Political system in terms of conflict, compromise, and consequence

Vocabulary: Globalization, outsourcing, environmentalism

Activities:
- YCV Introduction - Who we are, why we are there, where to find trusted election information from non-partisan sources.
- Vote with Your Feet - Through an interactive, guided discussion students will engage in a discussion based on statements surrounding the essential question “How have political divisions changed American society?”
- Who Has the Power - Three students are chosen to read speeches from different offices (one from local, one from state, and the President). Afterwards students discuss what power these offices hold to be able to deliver on their promise.
- Voter Registration - Students can choose to register to vote and will be guided through how to fill out the form correctly and understand the process.

YCV will also cover comparable units in Civics. For questions or to book please contact:

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