The journey to
become part of the
“WE” IN “WE
THE PEOPLE”
BY LISA LARSON, HALEY KUTZ, AND CHRISTINE HULL

We are bringing multiple voices and perspectives into 5th and 7th grade classrooms using inquiry driven lessons and the We the People Program to give our students voices. Join us as we share an OUT strategy lesson on Native American Voting Rights from the We the People Textbook.

Plan for Today
- Welcome and introductions
- What is We the People and how can you use it in your classroom?
- Engagement activity- OUT (Opening Up the Textbook)
- Document Investigation
- Reflection
- Project Citizen, NHD, and Summer Creation Workshop
- Questions
- Raffle
What is We the People?

- Inquiry driven text to be used as foundational material that promotes civic competence and responsibility
- Available for upper elementary, middle, and high school levels
- Focuses on foundations of government, set up of the US Constitution, the Bill of Rights, Democracy in the modern era

What does it mean to be a Citizen?
What rights are granted to you?

Citizen

- a legally recognized subject or national of a state or commonwealth, either native or naturalized. (dictionary definition)
- a person with rights in a city or state that participates in government affairs (student definition)
How did Native Americans gain the right to vote? American Indians governed themselves by their own tribal laws, treaties with the US government, and by special laws passed by Congress. These laws did not recognize American Indians as citizens of the United States. As a result, they did not have the right to vote.

The first attempt to grant Native Americans citizenship came in 1887 when Congress passed the Dawes Act. The Dawes Act granted a tract of land and citizenship to those who were willing to give up their allegiance to their tribe. The law was strongly resented by most tribes.

Finally, Congress passed a law in 1924 called the Indian Citizenship Act. This law fully recognized Native Americans as citizens of the United States. The law also gave Native Americans the right to vote in federal elections.
Rainbow Group

• Describe the obstacles faced by Native Americans in their journey on becoming American Citizens

Indian Citizenship Act Jigsaw

Rainbow Group

• Using all four texts create a 19–24 word summary.
The Nevada Center for Civic Engagement is a local Non-Profit that supports Inquiry Driven Learning in grades K-12 all over the state of Nevada. We have partnered nationally with the Center for Civic Education, National History Day, and the American Bar Association to support teachers and students across the state of Nevada in programs that bring student voice and choice into their learning.

Questions & How to Contact Us

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Thank you & Raffle

We loved having you today