

5th Grade United States Resources:

New York State Learning Standards for Social Studies

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/>

Books:

What Are the Amendments by Nancy Harris (2008)

Includes bibliographical references (p. 31) and index. What is the United States Constitution? -- Why do we have amendments? -- How to amend the Constitution -- The first ten amendments -- Other amendments -- Repealing amendments -- Why are the amendments important? Simple text and illustrations provide an introduction to constitutional amendments, discussing why they are added to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, how they are repealed, and why they are important.



Guided Reading: S

32 Pages

What is the Executive Branch by James Bow (2013)

Contents: The three branches -- The executive branch -- The president -- The vice president -- The cabinet -- EOP -- Protecting America -- The State Department -- Enforcing the laws -- Hands-on work -- Helping the government -- The government at home -- Other governments -- Discussion questions -- Learning more, glossary, and index.

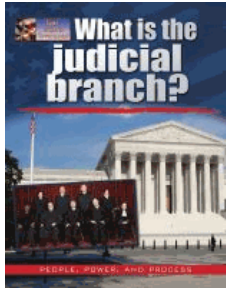


Guided Reading: S

32 Pages

What is the Judicial Branch by Ellen Rodger (2013)

An introduction to the judicial branch of government, and describes the Supreme Court, justices, court system, trials and appeals, and more.



Guided Reading: S

32 Pages

What is the Legislative Branch by James Bow (2013)

An introduction to the legislative branch of government, and describes the House of Representatives, the Senate, majority and minority, debating and voting, committee hearings, the President's veto, and more.

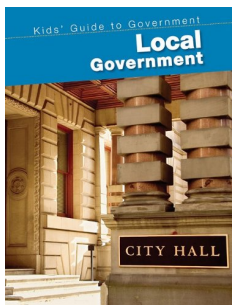


Guided Reading: Q

32 Pages

Local Government by Ernestine Giesecke (2000)

Introduces the purpose and function of local governments, explores the three branches of government at the city and county level, and presents the relationships between city and suburban governments and between various governments and schools.

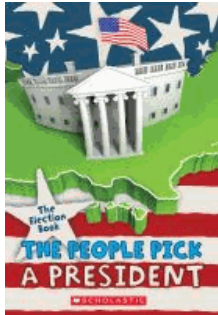


Guided Reading: V

32 Pages

The Election Book : the people pick a president by Tamara Hanneman (2012)

Helps the reader answers questions about the presidential election race.

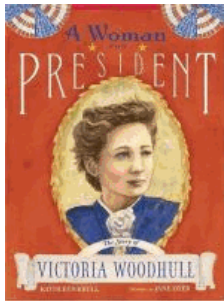


Guided Reading: W

112 Pages

A Woman for President: The Story of Victoria Woodhull by Kathleen Krull (2004)

Do you know the first woman to run for president? The first woman to have a seat on the Stock Exchange? The first woman to own a newspaper? To speak before Congress? They were all Victoria Woodhull; this is her story.

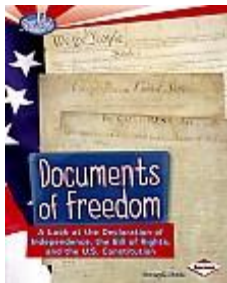


Guided Reading: V

32 Pages

Documents of Freedom : a look at the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the U.S. Constitution by Gwenyth Swain (2012)

Includes bibliographical references (p. 39) and index. Seeking freedom -- The Declaration of Independence -- The Constitution -- The Bill of Rights. Explores the origin, meaning, and importance of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.



Guided Reading: S

40 Pages

What's the Bill of Rights by Nancy Harris (2008)

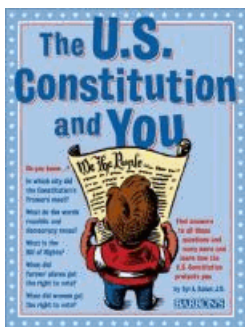
Includes bibliographical references (p. 31) and index. Simple text and illustrations provide an introduction to the Bill of Rights, discussing the history of the Constitution, when it was added, who wrote it, other amendments, and why it is important.



Guided Reading: n/a
32 Pages

The U.S. Constitution and You by Syl Sobel (2001)

All elementary school students learn about the history of the U.S. Constitution when they begin social studies. This book tells them about the great American document itself--explaining exactly what the Constitution does as well as how it affects and protects people today.



Guided Reading: V
48 Pages

Rights and Values by Patricia Freeland Hynes (2008)

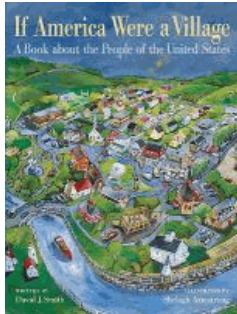
Includes bibliographical references (p. 31) and index. Introduces students to the basic rights guaranteed to every American citizen under the Bill of Rights.



Guided Reading: U
32 Pages

If America Were a Village: A Book About the People of the United States by David J. Smith (2009)

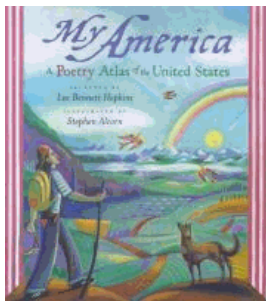
Presents a metaphor for the United States, simplifying it as a village of one hundred people in order to assist with understanding of ethnic origins, religions, family profiles, wealth, occupations, belongings, and other demographic details.



Guided Reading: V
32 Pages

My America: A Poetry Atlas of the United States by Lee Bennett Hopkins (2000)

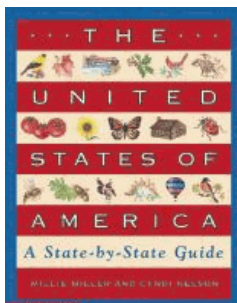
A collection of poems evocative of seven geographical regions of the United States, including the Northeast, Southeast, Great Lakes, Plains, Mountain, Southwest, and Pacific Coast States.



Guided Reading: S
83 Pages

The United States of America: A State-by-State Guide by Millie Miller (2006)

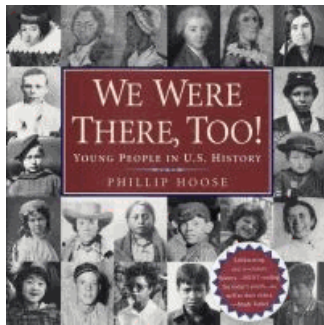
Presents information about the people, places, birds, insects, flowers, endangered species, and more associated with each of the fifty states and the nation's capital.



Guided Reading: U
64 Pages

We Were There Too: Young People in U.S. History by Philip M. Hoose (2001)

Biographies of dozens of young people who made a mark in American history, including explorers, planters, spies, cowpunchers, sweatshop workers, and civil rights workers.

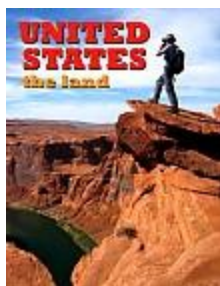


Guided Reading: Y

264 Pages

United States: The Land by Marlene Greil (2013)

Part of North America, the United States is bordered by Canada, Mexico, and two oceans. Young readers will learn about the history of the United States, as well as about the climate, agriculture, and natural landforms across the country's various regions.

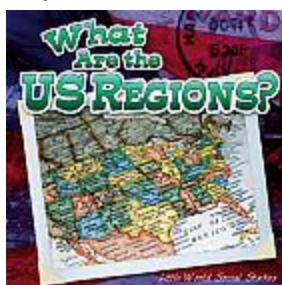


Guided Reading: X

32 Pages

What Are the U.S. Regions by Maureen Picard Robins (2013)

Includes bibliographical references (p. 24) and index. Simple text and illustrations introduce the five regions of the United States. This title talks about the five regions of the United States. It also includes information about the climate in each region, what the people there do for fun, what they eat and what makes living there so enjoyable.

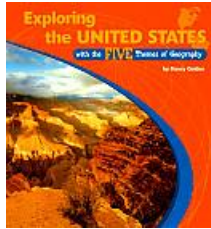


Guided Reading: P

24 Pages

Exploring the United States with Five Themes of Geography by Nancy Golden (2005)

Includes index. Describes the geography of the United States discussing absolute location, its physical features, population, natural resources, transportation, and the physical regions of the country.



Guided Reading: U
24 Pages

Looking at the United States by Kathleen Pohl (2009)

Includes bibliographical references (p. 29) and index.;Where is the United States? -- The landscape -- Weather and seasons -- American people -- School and family -- Country life -- City life -- American houses -- American food -- At work -- Having fun -- The United States : the facts. Photographs and easy-to-follow text introduce children to the people, culture, history, geography, weather, economy, and cuisine of the United States.



Guided Reading: S
32 Pages

United States of America by Katie Marsico (2011)

Includes bibliographical references (p. 47) and index.;Welcome to the United States! -- Business and government in the United States -- Meet the people -- Celebrations -- What's for dinner? An introduction to the United States of America, providing information about the country's business, government, people, celebrations, and food.



Guided Reading: U
48 Pages

Digital Resources

Databases: (To access these databases remotely, ask your librarian for your school's username and password.)

Brainpop Jr.: *Brainpop, Jr. is a database that provides a 3-6 minute video on informational topics followed by a comprehension quiz. The database includes activities and lesson plans as well. It is geared towards grades K-3, but can be used in 4th and 5th grades as well.*

Brainpop Jr. offers sections on geography, economics and government. The government section is specific to the United States. The geography section includes a video on the continents. The economy section is general and not specific to the US, Latin America, or Canada. There is a useful and fun game called "Sortify" that allows students to sort cards with world geography clues into bins for points varying in difficulty. You can find "Sortify" by clicking "Game Up" and choosing "Science Games."

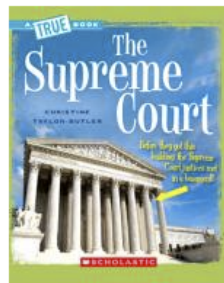
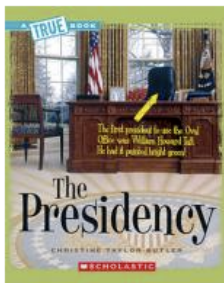
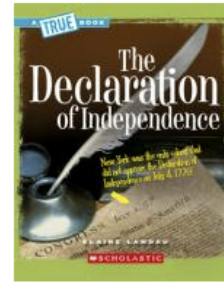
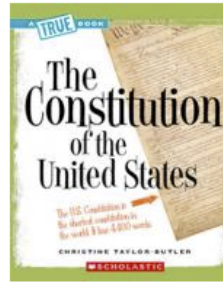
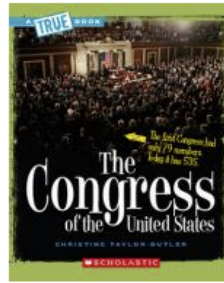
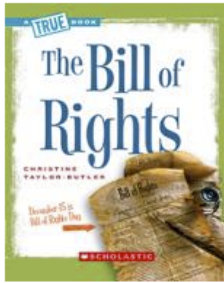


After viewing any videos on Brainpop Jr., two different online quizzes are offered to check for understanding. They are entitled "Easy" and "Hard" with 5 questions each.


TrueFlix: Trueflix is a database that includes non-fiction electronic books. Within each selected book you will find a 3-6 minute informational video on the subject, and a list of recommended websites.

Trueflix contains these six books which support the New York State Social Studies Standards on United States Government for 5th Grade. The books are 48 pages long, and include a “Read-Along” button which highlights each word as it is read aloud.

U.S. Government



Here is a sample contents page of the book *The Constitution of the United States*:

 <h1 style="color: red;">Contents</h1>	
<p>1 What Is a Constitution? It's a big word. It's an even bigger idea! 7</p> <p>2 The Divided States of America Can 13 cranky colonies get together? 13</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE BIG TRUTH!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meet Five Framers of the Constitution Who made it happen? 18</p> <p>3 The Constitutional Convention Finally, everyone makes it to the meeting! ... 21</p>	<p>4 Working Out the Problems It was big states against small states. Who won? 25</p> <p>5 The Constitution in Action How does it affect us today? 35</p> <p>True Statistics 43</p> <p>Resources 44</p> <p>Important Words 46</p> <p>Index 47</p> <p>About the Author 48</p>
4	5

Each subject in *Trueflix* has a part called “Show What You Know.” This is a ten question quiz that can be used to check understanding from the text.

Show What You Know

1. The Constitution created a _____ government in the United States.



- local
- federal
- county
- city-state

SUBMIT

Trueflix also offers word match activity that can be done online. Word match gives a clue that can then be matched with a keyword from the text. As you can see from the toolbar on the left, there are project ideas for the classroom, a list of other non-fiction resources on the same topic in “Explore More,” related websites that have been tested and recommended, and a 3-6 minute video in “Watch the Video.”



Start

Watch the Video

Read the Book

Explore More

Project Idea

Activity Center

• Show What You Know

• Word Match

Explore the Web

More
Space

Word Match

Read the clue below. Click on the word it matches.
Match all the words to uncover a picture.

CLUE: relating to a form of government in which states are united under one central power

preamble	compromise	executive
amendments	judicial	delegates
unanimous	legislative	federal

Pebble Go! *Pebble Go is a database that includes non-fiction books, videos and activities. The target audience for Pebble Go is Kindergarten through 3rd grade, however Pebble Go can be a great way to pique interest in a topic for 4th and 5th graders. Each book is 5 pages long and includes a read-aloud button that highlights each word as it reads aloud. There are often one or two very short videos on the topic embedded within each book.*

Pebble Go has this wide selection of introductory books that align with New York State Social Studies Standards on U.S. Government for 5th Grade:

U.S. Government

U.S. Constitution

Declaration of Independence

Democracy

Voting

President

Governor

Mayor

Congress

State Legislature

City Council

Courts

Juries

Here is an example of the inside of the book “Congress”:

Congress

What Is Congress?

The Senate

The House of Representatives

Serving Terms

Making New Laws

Related Articles

Members of Congress make laws for the United States. The U.S. **government** has three branches. They are the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. Congress is part of the **legislative branch**.

The U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

World Book Web:

The World Book Web is a suite of online research tools that includes encyclopedia articles, primary source collections, educator tools, student activities, pictures, audio, and video, complemented by current periodicals and related Web sites. Most all of these World Book Web research tools include options where text can be read aloud to the user. All Ithaca elementary school libraries currently subscribe to **World Book Kids**, **World Book Student**, **World Book Discover**, **World Book Timelines** and **World Book Classroom: Early World of Learning**. For specific training in how to use these amazing tools consult Worldbook's training website or ask your school's librarian. <http://www.worldbookonline.com/training/>

World Book Student has an article called "United States, government of the" which aligns with New York State Social Studies Standards for 5th Grade. You can use this link to access the article on day and night: <http://www.worldbookonline.com/student/article?id=ar575980> OR you can simply type "united states government" in World Book Student and choose the first article.

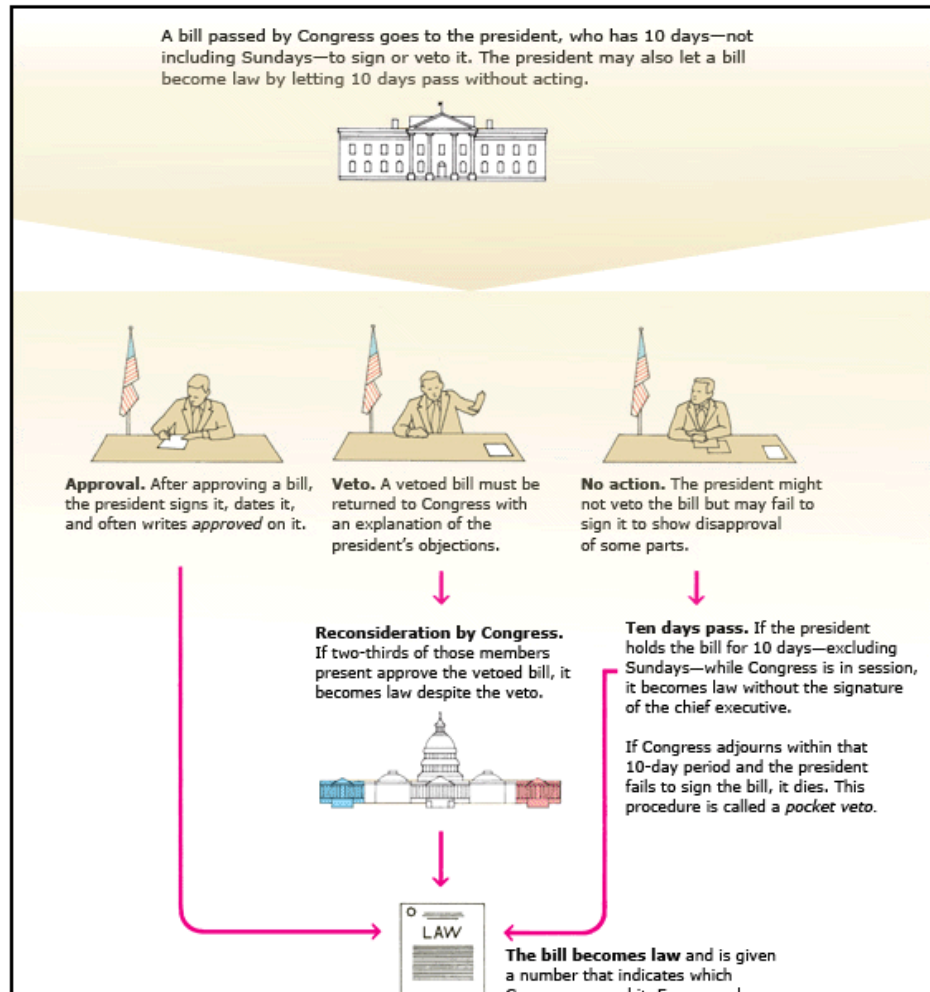
This large article's contents includes these broad headings. Each heading is then divided into many subsections. You'll notice the little camera or video camera next to some of the subsections. It shows that instead of text you will get a still image or short video. For example there is a video in the legislative branch called "How a bill becomes law in the United States." This article is full of pictures, graphs and information. It is very useful for digging deep into the functions of the United States government.

Article Contents		
MAIN SECTIONS		
Lexile [®] Measure: 1010L		
<u>Introduction</u>		
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Principles of American government</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Principles of American government</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Principles of American government</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>The legislative branch</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Constitutional authority</u><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Separation of powers</u><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Federalism</u><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Representative democracy</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>The legislative branch</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>The executive branch</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>The legislative branch</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>The legislative branch</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>The judicial branch</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>The executive branch</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>The legislative branch</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Growth of the federal government</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>The judicial branch</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>The legislative branch</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Current issues in U.S. government</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Growth of the federal government</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>The legislative branch</u>
<u>Citation Information</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Current issues in U.S. government</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>The legislative branch</u>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Organization</u><input type="checkbox"/> <u>United States Capitol</u><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Functions</u><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Joint session of the U.S. Congress</u><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Committee system</u><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Party leadership</u><input type="checkbox"/> <u>The lawmaking process</u><input type="checkbox"/> <u>How a bill becomes law in the United States</u>

Here is a sample from the article showing presidential action:

🖼️ Picture: **Action by the President of the United States**

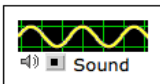
(Home Article: [United States, Government of the](#))



There is a sound clip of the presidential oath in the article:

🔊 Sound: **Presidential oath of office**

(Home Article: [President of the United States](#))



The oath of office is the highlight of the inauguration ceremonies of each new president of the United States. In this recording, U.S. President John F. Kennedy takes the oath of office from chief justice Earl Warren during his inauguration on January 20, 1961.

I, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. So help me God.

World Book Student has an article called “United States” which aligns with New York State Social Studies Standards for 5th Grade. You can use this link to access the article on day and night: <http://www.worldbookonline.com/student/article?id=ar575960> OR you can simply type “united states” in World Book Student and choose the first article.

This article includes a lot of information on economy and the land, making it perfect for NYS Social Studies standards on United States geography and economy.

<p>The land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• United States: Geographic Center• The Appalachian Highlands• Appalachian Highlands• The Coastal Lowlands• Coastal Lowlands in the United States• The Piedmont• The Atlantic Coastal Plain• The Gulf Coastal Plain• The Interior Plains• Interior Plains of the United States• The Ozark-Ouachita Highlands• The Rocky Mountains• The Western Plateaus, Basins, and Ranges• Desert areas in the United States• Rainbow Bridge National Monument• Death Valley• The Pacific Ranges and Lowlands• United States' Pacific Coast	<p>Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economy in the United States• Economic production in the United States• Natural resources• Minerals• Soils• Water• Forests• Fish• Service industries• Finance, insurance, and real estate• Community, business, and personal services• Trade, restaurants, and hotels• Government services• Transportation and communication• Manufacturing• Aircraft manufacturing in Long Beach• Construction• Agriculture• Agriculture in the United States• Mining• Coal strip mine• Energy sources
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The article contains many charts and graphs. Some like the one below show a picture of the economy of the United States:

Table : **Economic production in the United States**
(from the [United States](#) article)

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. Figures are for 2010; employment figures include full- and part-time workers.

Economic activities	% of GDP ¹ produced	Number of workers	% of all workers
Community, business, & personal services	23	58,981,200	34
Finance, insurance, & real estate	23	19,148,500	11
Trade, restaurants, & hotels	15	35,856,200	21
Government	13	24,680,000	14
Manufacturing	12	12,206,900	7
Transportation & communication	7	8,715,100	5
Construction	4	8,914,200	5
Mining	2	1,185,500	1
Utilities	2	579,000	<u>2</u>
Agriculture	1	3,500,800	2
Total³	100	173,767,400	100

¹GDP = gross domestic product, the total value of goods and services produced in a year.

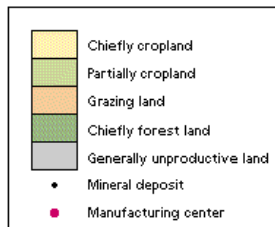
²Less than one-half of 1 percent.

³Figures may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Map: **Economy in the United States**
(Home Article: [United States](#))
(Resource Guide: [United States](#))



Zoom Out



Websites:

CIA: World Factbook

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

The World Factbook provides information on the history, people, government, economy, geography, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues for 267 world entities. Our Reference tab includes: maps of the major world regions, as well as Flags of the World, a Physical Map of the World, a Political Map of the World, a World Oceans map, and a Standard Time Zones of the World map.

United States Map Puzzle

<http://www.yourchildlearns.com/mappuzzle/us-puzzle.html>

This puzzle allows students to practice geography of states and capitals.

Ben's Guide to U.S. Government

<http://bensguide.gpo.gov/3-5/index.html>

This comprehensive website includes sections on branches of government, historical documents, our nation, election process, symbols and much more. There is a games and activities section as well.

New Beta version of Ben's Guide to U.S. Government: <http://beta.fdlp.gov/>

America's Story: Library of Congress

<http://www.americaslibrary.gov/>

Meet amazing Americans, jump back in time, explore the states and more.

First Ladies of the United States

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/first-ladies>

Short histories on each of the first ladies of the United States.

Presidents of the United States

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/>

Short histories on each of the presidents of the United States.

Internet Public Library: Presidents of the United States

<http://www.ipl.org/div/potus/>

In this resource you will find background information, election results, cabinet members, notable events, and some points of interest on each of the presidents. Links to biographies, historical documents, audio and video files, and other presidential sites are also included.

Our Documents

<http://www.ourdocuments.gov/index.php?flash=true&>

Includes online copies of all of America's important historical documents.

Kids in the House

<http://kids.clerk.house.gov/grade-school/>

The U.S. House of Representatives plays an important role in the United States government. Learn more about its Members, responsibilities, and history through lessons and activities. Includes “What is Congress,” “How Laws are Made,” “Around the Capitol,” and “Art and History.”

iPad apps:

The White House - by The White House

Cost: Free

Includes news from the White House blog and press briefing room, photo and video archives, and live streams of events around the country.

Constitution - by Kids Discover

Cost: \$3.99

Learn about the battle to write ratify and enforce the Constitution. Discover how amendments are proposed and incorporated into legislation.

American Presidents for Kids - by D Douglas Limited

Cost: \$1.99

Provides lessons about each president. Covers facts about the presidency as well as life before and after. Includes a “build your own quiz” section.

U.S. Geography - by Discovery Education iPad Edition

Cost: \$0.99

Interact with the different regions of the United States, read featured news articles, play games, watch videos in the theater.

U.S. Geography - by Brainscape

Cost: Free

Learn U.S. States, capitals, landforms and landmarks.

Enjoy Learning U.S. Map Puzzle - by Digital Gene

Cost: Free

Timed jigsaw puzzle game.

GEO Game U.S. - by Axon Pro

Cost: Free

Geography game that includes 26 tests from 5 groups including U.S. and World Geography and the Solar System.