

Freedom's Feast

On-line resources to get the most out of your **AMERICAN** holiday celebrations.

Consider the following ways to utilize Freedom's Feast's Educators' Resources:

- Conduct a formal reading of the ceremony with a discussion following.
- Use the ceremony to structure a discussion. Stop at key places to explore individuals, events or concepts. Use visuals from ceremony hyperlink sites or recommended reading lists to trigger discussion.
- Have students read the ceremony in advance. Create student research teams to explore then lead discussions on key individuals, events or concepts.
- Invite parents to join students. Follow a ceremony reading with an in-school table talk intergenerational exercise. Record the results through reporters and create your own class history stories.
- For School/Community settings, use the ceremony content to focus a discussion on key issues related to the holiday. Hold a scavenger hunt and ask museum visitors to find evidence/artifacts that supports discussion points in permanent display of the museum. Or ask students to find evidence/artifacts in their neighborhoods or homes.

Presidents' Day Sample Lesson Plan

Home/School Group assignment (before the ceremony):

Review "[Compromise, Compromise](#)" or [Table Talk Constitution & Bill of Rights summaries](#). Select key trigger question(s) that will engage your students.

1. [Ceremony](#) — select five to six readers one week in advance; rehearse and read with class and invited guests including four stops during the ceremony for discussion. Use "Presidents' Day Glossary" as a resource for the selected readers. 25 minutes
2. *Invite Guest Speaker(s)* — from local community to engage students in discussion about civic involvement... county/city councilmember, candidate who ran for office (successfully or not), leader of a voter advocacy group, college student activist, a panel of senior citizens to share their earliest/most memorable voting experiences. 25 minutes
3. *Home/School Group assignment (right after the ceremony):* Review "[We the People: Take Action](#)". What cause inspires you to take action and how would you share your passion with others? What have other young people done to make a difference when they care about a cause?
4. [Keepsake Exercise](#). Three weeks beforehand, order necessary supplies, invite helpers (suggested: one for every 10-15 students) with toaster ovens, 2-3 days before in-class keepsake, send home keepsake handout. Ask students to think about their keepsake design.



PRESIDENTS' DAY