



Literacy Design Collaborative



Florida Joint Center for Citizenship



The NLP Civics Collection: *Using Literacy Design Collaborative to Help Students Meet Standards and Improve Disciplinary Literacy*

Dedicated to maximizing student achievement in civics and literacy education, the NLP Civics Collection was directed by the National Literacy Project (NLP) and funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The collection offers nineteen literacy-rich LDC civics modules for grades K-6 (see reverse side for titles and access information). These modules were developed by a coalition of educators representing NLP, eight Florida districts, the Florida Joint Center for Citizenship, and the National Literacy Design Collaborative. Although the collection was designed for Florida teachers, modules can be easily adapted for use in other states.

The NLP Civics Collection has been field-tested in four Florida school districts by 100+ teachers. These modules address all of the K-6 Florida Civics Benchmarks and many of the Language Arts Florida Standards.

Project Components

- **Targeted Civics Instruction.** Students gain in-depth knowledge of essential civics content and concepts.
- **Disciplinary Literacy.** Students read informational text, including primary and secondary sources, and use evidence-based writing to address a task.
- **Use of Literacy Support Strategies.** Students engage in literacy support strategies as they read, write, and think through issues in civics.
- **Professional Learning.** NLP provides professional learning for teachers on disciplinary literacy strategies, the use of student work to inform instruction, and the instructional shifts needed to implement the Florida Standards.



Interested? Contact Dr. Judith Irvin, NLP Executive Director, jirvin@nlproject.org

The NLP Civics Collection

Each module covers one to three weeks of classroom instruction. The modules can be successfully implemented as a schoolwide progression, with each grade's instruction building and deepening students' knowledge and skill. Or modules can stand alone, and teachers can implement modules that address particular standards/benchmarks, as needed.

Kindergarten

- A. Why Rules and Laws Are Important
- B. What Good Citizens Do

Grade 1

- A. People, Rules, and Laws
- B. Citizens Have Responsibility
- C. Conflict Resolution
- D. American Symbols

Grade 2

- A. The United States Constitution
- B. Rights and Responsibilities of U. S. Citizens
- C. Responsible Citizenship

Grade 3

- A. By the People, For the People: Government and the Constitution
- B. Comparing Three Levels of Government

Grade 4

- A. The Florida State Constitution: Structure, Function, and Purpose
- B. Florida Citizens Working Together

Grade 5

- A. Roots of American Democracy: Declaration of Independence to Articles of Confederation
- B. Roots of American Democracy: Federalism
- C. Civil and Political Rights
- D. Basic Principles of the U. S. Constitution: Limiting Government
- E. Raise your Hand! Why Civic Responsibility Is Important to American Democracy

Grade 6

- A. The Influence of Greek and Roman Democratic Principles on the American Political Process

All of the modules are open source (for access, see below). You may download, copy, share, or modify them. If you have questions about their use, contact Dr. Judith Irvin. Enjoy!

- **National Literacy Project:** [www.nlproject.org/resources/NLP Civics Collection](http://www.nlproject.org/resources/NLP_Civics_Collection)
- **Literacy Design Collaborative – Core Tools:** coretools ldc.org (you will be asked to create a free account). The advantage of this site is that you can easily copy any module and modify it for your own use. Search the LDC Library to find the NLP Civics Collection
 - Go to coretools ldc.org/curriculumLibrary
 - Search for: NLP Civics Collection
- **Florida Council for the Social Studies:** www.fc ss.org/resources
 - Click on American Gov't Civics Resources for FCSS members (members will need a login with their credential)
 - Click National Literacy Project – Florida Civics Collection