

# INTERESTED IN IMPROVING YOUR EIGHTH-GRADERS' UNDERSTANDING OF SOCIAL STUDIES?

## We Can Help!

FREE LESSON MATERIALS and PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT are available to schools in the 2020–2021 school year as part of an Institute of Education Sciences research study.

**How will this help my eighth-graders?** In previous studies, students, on average, made **gains in history knowledge and understanding of key history concepts** when compared with other students taught by the same teachers in different classes.

**What is the focus of the lessons?** The researcher-developed lesson materials cover **three 10-day units** (Colonial America, Road to Revolution, and Revolutionary War) aligned with U.S. history curriculum standards. Lessons are designed to improve U.S. history content knowledge and reading comprehension.

**Is this a new curriculum?** No! This is a set of fully developed lesson materials that **OVERLAY YOUR EXISTING CURRICULUM**. The lessons do not consume all of the teacher's class time, leaving plenty of time for teacher preference and local requirements.

## LESSONS ALLOW FOR FLEXIBLE USE IN EIGHTH-GRADE U.S. HISTORY CLASSES

### Engagement and Motivation

- Increased opportunities for students to be active participants in learning social studies

### In-Depth Learning and Knowledge Application

- Individual and team-based learning checks to inform instruction; application of knowledge to writing and academic discussions

### English Language Learner Supports

- English language learner enhancements in all materials to support learning and comprehension of content and text

### Content Acquisition

- Increased opportunities for organizing and capturing essential content and knowledge from complex text



# 2020–2021 TEACHER PARTICIPATION INCLUDES:

## Professional Development



- Strategies to enhance student comprehension, critical thinking, and content understanding
- Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits
- Scheduling at a convenient time for schools

## Lesson Materials



- Fully prepared materials developed by researchers at The University of Texas at Austin and Florida State University
- Units for Colonial America, Road to Revolution, and Revolutionary War
- Alignment with state standards

## Other Benefits



- Stipends to all teachers
- Summative report describing success of the project at the school

## Feedback From Past Teacher Participants

*"The strategies provide innovative ways to get students to go deeper (beyond the facts)."*

*"The strategies enabled the students to see different nuances, discuss, and pull information together."*

*"The students enjoyed it. I was pleased by the thought-provoking perspectives the kids were able to take on."*



PROMOTING ADOLESCENTS'  
COMPREHENSION OF TEXT

**For More Information and to Sign Up for Participation:**

[www.meadowscenter.org/supact](http://www.meadowscenter.org/supact)

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