

EXTEND THE RESOURCES

Below is a list of ideas and ways you might use the resources provided on this Classroom Law Project resource page to extend learning and civic engagement for your students:

Start with Choice & Inquiry:

The sections on this Current Event Resource Page connect to the role of the Supreme Court, political battles to stack the Court, historic trends, and the current candidate. Students could explore the trends of who has served by examining the regional background, education, demographics, and disposition of Supreme Court justices, past and present. Give students the opportunity to choose a topic or connection of interest and start with that.

Extensions with the Articles/Editorials:

- News Analysis worksheets (handout on current event page)
- Further News Research (Research Tips handout on current event page)
- Annotated summaries of articles
- Socratic discussions with shared article texts

Extensions:

- Challenge students to interpret the data to identify trends in the confirmation process of nominees to the Supreme Court (see Pew Research article)
- Discuss the lack of term limits on justices. How is this advantageous but also problematic? Try a Structure Academic Controversy, Socratic Seminar, or a debate.
- Role play the nomination process using the current nominee's questionnaire to the Senate Judiciary Committee.
- Make a timeline of 'firsts' to be seated on The Supreme Court.
- Identify pros and cons of expanding the number of seats on The Supreme Court and create a T Chart. Have students pair up, fold a piece of paper hot dog style. Each will then take a side on each column, passing the paper back and forth as they write their arguments and rebuttals. The teacher runs the timer so each side gets a fair shot to write (Silent Debate).