



CURRENT EVENTS - EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

(ELECTORAL COUNT ACT)

Below is a list of ideas and ways you might use the resources provided for this Current Events Post to extend learning and civic engagement for your students.

Beyond the Classroom

Write an Editorial - [LINK TO DIRECTIONS](#)

- **Activity Summary:** Students go through a research, drafting, editing, and revision process to generate OpEd's about Current Event issues.
- **Suggestion for this Current Event:** Have students create their own Editorials on the Electoral Count Act. Students can research and then write about the two versions of the updated bill, the House of Representatives' version of the update, as well as the U.S. Senate's version. Students can take a side, as to which they believe is the better bill and explain to their audience why they believe that bill is the better version.

Conversation for Advocating

Silent Debate - [LINK TO DIRECTIONS](#)

- **Activity Summary:** Students sit side by side and debate an issue back and forth on the same piece of paper, each writing in their own column. Teachers can assign positions, including role play from the perspectives of historical or current people. This way students work together in an engaging way to identify multiple points of view on an issue.
- **Suggestion for this Current Event:** Have students examine the Electoral Count Act and the Electoral College as an institution. From there, have students silently debate the need for the Electoral College and whether or not the U.S. should adopt a popular vote system for the presidential election, abandoning the Electoral College.



Media Literacy

Allsides - [LINK TO DIRECTIONS](#)

- **Activity Summary:** Democracy only works when 'we the people' are informed. With the overwhelming number of news sources in the modern age, students need to learn how to identify bias either through selection of evidence or through the analysis of it. This lesson helps train them to be critical consumers of information.
- **Suggestion for this Current Event:** Have students visit the Allsides webpage related to the [Electoral County Act](#), and walk through the procedure laid out in the directions above.

Rhetorical Literacy

Argument Identification - [LINK TO DIRECTIONS](#)

- **Activity Summary:** Students deconstruct arguments and identify elements within that argument, in order to expose them to persuasive arguments and writing. To have students name, describe, and identify elements of persuasive writing, they will be better equipped to do the same in Current Event writings and resources in the future
- **Suggestion for this Current Event:** Use the "Recent Editorials" section of the Electoral Count Act - Current Events post to choose an Op-Ed for the students to examine. From there, have the class follow the "Argument Identification" protocols, so they can see how the author(s) tried to persuade their audience as it relates to the Electoral Count Act debate.