



# CURRENT EVENTS - EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

## *THE WORLD REACHES 8 BILLION PEOPLE*

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.

### Conversation for Understanding

**Socratic Seminar** - [LINK TO DIRECTIONS](#) +++ [LINK TO GRAPHIC ORGANIZER](#)

- **Activity Summary:** A teacher poses an open-ended, overarching question, and then allows students to have a collaborative discussion using the questioning method with each other. It is inherently collaborative and encourages students to explore multiple facets of difficult topics and acknowledge diverse perspectives, even if they don't agree with them.
- **Suggestion for this Current Event:** The global event of marking 8 billion people on the planet is a great grounding for a Socratic Seminar, as the event invites a host of ideas, themes, and issues to be discussed and questioned by students. Everything from resource management, population control measures, demographic changes, and others can be discussed in this activity type.

### 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:** Using [THIS ALLSIDES PAGE](#), students can complete the Allsides activity and analyze the current dialogue around the population milestone.

### Research

**Interpreting & Analyzing Data Visualizations** - [LINK TO DIRECTIONS](#)

- **Activity Summary:** This activity focuses on three types of quantitative data visualizations: charts, graphs, and tables. When students build the skills and habits to analyze and



interpret data visualizations, they develop a deeper, more textured understanding of the Current Events they study.

- **Suggestion for this Current Event:** Global population growth, include the 8 billion population mark, is a great opportunity for students to engage in data analysis and interpretation. A number of news outlets and NGO websites have graphs, charts, and other data visualizations that students can use to explore the theme of population growth and demographic change.