



# CURRENT EVENTS - EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

## CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS

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:** Students can research a topic related to classified documents. Topics can include, the current process in which documents are classified, who has the authority to classify documents, how classified documents are cataloged and supervised, what happens to classified documents after an administration, or how the Freedom of Information Act relates to classified documents. After their research, students can write an Editorial on their research and opinions on the chosen topic.

### Conversation for Understanding

**Four Corners Discussion** - [LINK TO DIRECTIONS](#)

- **Activity Summary:** A discussion technique that has students move around the room to demonstrate their current thought process behind the issues/topics being explored.
- **Suggestion for this Current Event:** Using a series of prompts related to the efficacy and need for classified documents, students can follow the Four Corners protocol to discuss the issues and controversies surrounding classified documents. This may include whether too many documents are marked as classified, how the documents are managed, the amount of people with security clearances to view classified documents, and the checks and balances associated with mishandling of classified documents.

## 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:** Students can complete the Allsides activity about the differences, as the media is covering them, between the classified documents in President Biden's possession, and those found in former President Trump's possession. Students can use [THIS ALLSIDES POST](#), in support of that work.

## 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:** Using this week's Current Event Post, "Classified Documents", students can choose an Editorial to analyze using the protocols set forth in the Argument Identification activity.