



CURRENT EVENTS - EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

FOOD INSECURITY & SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

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 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:** After students have researched various ways governments and communities have addressed the issue of hunger and food insecurity, students can be assigned to take a side of a debate on the issue. Using a prompt about food insecurity like, "Since hunger is a local issue, local communities should be in charge of addressing it.", students can follow the Silent Debate protocols to discuss various viewpoints.

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 use the Allsides protocols while examining the "[Food Stamps](#)" post on the Allsides website.



Questioning

Question Formulation - [LINK TO DIRECTIONS](#)

- **Activity Summary:** Students practice the creation of questions and engaging with content on a deeper level. Through a series of steps, students generate questions, determine their strengths and weaknesses, and help categorize their thought process.
- **Suggestion for this Current Event:** Prior to doing research, analysis and a deep dive into the topic of food insecurity and government food assistance programs, a class can engage in the Questioning protocol. Specifically, the Questioning prompt could be a piece of data from one of the Background Resources associated with the Food Insecurity Current Events post, or a quote from one of the articles of the post.

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:** Students can use the Background Resources associated with the Food Insecurity Current Events post to find charts, maps, and other data visualizations to use as the data sets in the lesson plan.