

TEACHER CRITICAL CONTENT NOTES

BENCHMARK

SS.5.CG.2.2 *Compare forms of political participation in the colonial period to today.*

BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS

- Students will describe forms of political participation in the colonial period (e.g., serving on juries, militia service, participation in elections for government).
- Students will identify ways citizens participate in the political process today (e.g., serving on juries, participation in elections for government).

WHERE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN

4th Grade	<p>SS.4.CG.2.2 Explain the importance of voting, public service, and volunteerism to the state and nation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will explain how voting, public service, and volunteerism contribute to the preservation of the republic. ● Students will discuss different types of public service and volunteerism.
-----------	--

WHERE STUDENTS ARE GOING

Middle School Civics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SS.7.CG.2.2 ● SS.8.CG.2.3 ● SS.8.CG.2.4
----------------------	---

TIMING/PACING NOTES

- This benchmark may be taught at any point during the school year.
- This benchmark may also be taught with SS.5.CG.2.3 and SS.5.CG.2.4, which address civic duties and participation.

UNDERSTANDING THE BENCHMARK

- What to know:
- ◆ Describe can mean: write, compare, or explain
 - ◆ Identify can mean: name, list, match, or write
 - ◆ The “Colonial period” refers to 1607-1776
 - ◆ As citizens, we are called to be engaged participants in the political process
 - ◆ In the United States, citizenship comes with rights, obligations, and responsibilities

→ Main concepts to teach:

- ◆ Political participation during the colonial period
- ◆ Political participation during current times
- ◆ Comparisons between the two time periods

→ Examples:

◆ Colonial period

● Participation:

- Serving on juries, militia service, participation in elections for government, running for an elected office, serving in assemblies, shared political opinions through writings (newspapers/pamphlets/petitions)

● Restrictions:

- Under the original U.S. Constitution only white men age 21 and older who owned land could vote
- Minority populations (women, African Americans, Native Americans, etc.) were limited in their ability to participate

◆ Current

● Participation:

- Serving on juries, participation in elections for government, running for an elected office, serving in the military, communicating with elected officials, staying informed

● Opportunities for political participation were expanded to include more societal groups through amendments and legislation

- Voting rights for Americans are addressed in the 14th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 24th, and 26th Amendments as well as the Enforcement Act of 1870 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965

CONTENT BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Information on colonial America participation:

1. [History Channel: Colonial America Election Day Parties](#)
2. [American Battlefield Trust: Militia, Minutemen, and Continentals](#)
3. [Massachusetts Government: History of the Jury System](#)
4. [National Geographic: Society and Culture in Colonial America](#)

Information on current participation:

1. [Florida Supreme Court: Women on Juries](#)
2. [Library of Congress: The Right to Vote](#)
3. [Center for Civics Education: How Can Citizens Participate?](#)