PALMETTO CIVICS PROJECT

AN INITIATIVE OF THE SC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The **Palmetto Civics Project** is a resource-rich initiative aimed at helping students understand and respect our civic institutions. Its goal is for every South Carolina graduate to be **prepared for American citizenship**—embracing both its privileges and responsibilities.

Most resources are **free** and available to all public, private, and home schools in the state, providing educators and parents with tools to bring American history and civic values to life. Lessons focus on liberty, self-government, and the rule of law, linking them to current citizenship duties.

In a time of declining civic literacy nationwide, this project is South Carolina's response to a diminished emphasis on American history and the Constitution. Together, we are **preparing the next generation** to engage in civic discourse, preserve freedom, and strengthen our democracy.

Free

Palmetto Pioneers

Discover the spirit of American history with the Palmetto Pioneers! Through **leadership**, **sacrifice**, **courage**, **perseverance**, and **integrity**, they've helped shape a stronger union. Check out this inspiring resource to learn the virtues that can help you succeed and build a better community!

Free

American Battlefield Trust

Discover how South Carolina Patriots turned the tide of the **Revolutionary War**—from Cowpens to Camden. Thanks to our partnership with the American Battlefield Trust, students can explore engaging, standards-aligned lessons that **bring these battles and heroes to life**. Learn your history today!

Free

Founders Museum

Do you know which four South Carolinians signed the **Declaration of Independence in 1776**? Discover the answer and experience history like never before. Watch our Founding Fathers, Ladies of the Revolution, and key events come to life in this White House resource celebrating **America's 250th birthday**.

Free

Medal of Honor

Courage, **commitment**, **integrity**, **sacrifice**, **citizenship**, and **patriotism**—these virtues define Medal of Honor heroes. Through teacher training and free character curriculum, in partnership with the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, we're bringing their inspiring stories to South Carolina students.

Free

S.C. African American History Calendar

For **over 35 years**, the South Carolina African American History Calendar has highlighted **notable African American role models and contributions** connected to our state. Its resources help educators, parents, and communities teach vital history that uplifts and inspires students.

Subscription

Civil Rights: A Global Perspective

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. taught that strength comes from **faith**, **conviction**, **courage**, and **compassion**. Endorsed by Ambassador Andrew Young, this "Hope" lesson from Civil Rights: A Global Perspective helps high school students explore history and Dr. King's message of non-violent progress.

Explore all of our Palmetto Civics Projects Resources by scanning the QR code

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY

ACTIVITIES

Summer SC 250 Essay Contest

The Summer SC 250 Essay Contest invites students in grades 6-12 to reflect on civics, American history, or citizenship through a structured writing prompt. The activity supports literacy, critical thinking, and civic reflection while providing students an opportunity to share their voice.

America 250 Reading List

This curated reading list supports the America 250 commemoration by offering age-appropriate texts that deepen students' understanding of American history, civics, and government. The list is intended for flexible use by students and families.

Superintendent Video Message

A short video message from the State Superintendent will introduce the Palmetto Civics summer initiatives, encourage student participation, and reinforce the importance of civic learning.

SC 250 Summer Passport

The SC 250 Summer Passport provides students with optional activities focused on history, community service, and civic engagement. The initiative This patriotic summer initiative encourages students to explore American history, practice good citizenship, and serve their communities while building character while promoting hands-on learning and family participation during the summer months.

Who's Your Favorite Revolutionary War Hero?

Every hero tells a different story of bravery and freedom. This interactive poll invites students to learn about South Carolina–connected Revolutionary War figures and participate in a statewide vote. The activity encourages exploration, comparison, and historical discussion.

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