

## “America Votes” Teacher's Guide

“America Votes” has been produced through a grant from The Ohio Newspapers Foundation, a nonprofit charitable and educational organization affiliated with **The Ohio Newspaper Association**.

This teacher's guide has been distributed in electronic format to Newspaper In Education (NIE) coordinators and publishers at more than 175 daily and weekly newspapers in Ohio for use in local schools. Local teachers are encouraged to work with their nearest newspaper to develop specific classroom activities using the local newspaper.

The Foundation has been publishing teacher's guides since 1984 through its Ohio NIE Committee. Assisting with the development of this teacher's guide were: Juliann Breeding, *The Columbus Dispatch*; Suzanne Helmick, Kids Voting Ohio; Dianne Johnson, *The Columbus Dispatch*; Kathy Liber, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*; Anna Oertel, *Times Recorder*, Zanesville; Lisa Reuter, *The Columbus Dispatch*; Christa Meyer, The Ohio Newspaper Association.

The individual **Newspaper In Education** programs of Ohio’s newspapers work to encourage literacy and newspaper use in schools, to support teachers across the curriculum and to help America’s future leaders learn about the world around them.

Additional material is used with permission from Kids Voting USA, Tempe, AZ. **Kids Voting Ohio**, an affiliate of Kids Voting USA, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan citizenship education organization engaging students and families in voting and other activities. The program combines dynamic classroom civics lessons with an authentic voting experience that mirrors the official voting process. Information about Kids Voting USA and sample materials are available to teachers at [www.kidsvotingusa.org](http://www.kidsvotingusa.org).

**For more information on the America Votes project, contact:**

**The Ohio Newspapers Foundation**

Frank Deaner, Executive Director  
1335 Dublin Road, Suite 216-B  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 486-6677

**Kids Voting Ohio**

Suzanne Helmick, Executive Director  
191 W. Nationwide Blvd., Suite 300-A  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 224-3555

## Teacher's Guide for America Votes

### Web Sites:

[bensguide.gpo.gov/](http://bensguide.gpo.gov/) - Ben's Guide to U.S. Government for Kids

[clerkkids.house.gov/](http://clerkkids.house.gov/) - a site for learning and understanding the House of Representatives

[fpc.state.gov/c9752.htm](http://fpc.state.gov/c9752.htm) - U.S. Department of State site, with links to election calendars, trivia, public opinion polls, political party sites and more

[search.ohio.gov/](http://search.ohio.gov/) - links to other Ohio governmental sites

[usinfo.state.gov/usa/infousa/facts/democrac/demo.htm](http://usinfo.state.gov/usa/infousa/facts/democrac/demo.htm) - basic readings in U.S. Democracy including Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and more

[whitehouse.gov/kids/](http://whitehouse.gov/kids/) - the White House for kids

[www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/locators/coredocs/index.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/locators/coredocs/index.html) Government Printing Office, core documents list - Constitution, Bill of Rights, Declaration of Independence, and more

[www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) - the National Archives – includes links to presidential libraries, digital classroom with many original source documents; remarks on civil rights laws

[www.cccoe.net/govern/](http://www.cccoe.net/govern/) - Great Government for Kids

[www.co.franklin.oh.us/boe/](http://www.co.franklin.oh.us/boe/) - Board of Elections for Franklin County

For other counties, go to [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) and insert the county name plus Board of Elections.

[www.dnet.org](http://www.dnet.org) - a site to help you find your local candidates

[www.fec.gov](http://www.fec.gov) - Federal Election Commission, Go to Citizens' Guide, then How Elections Work, then Electoral College and Electoral College History for some excellent information

[www.geocities.com/Athens/Agora/8088/ElectPandC.html](http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Agora/8088/ElectPandC.html) - site with election maps of the outcomes of primaries and caucuses from 1972 to 2000

[www.govspot.com/features/kids.htm](http://www.govspot.com/features/kids.htm) - Government for kids

[www.kids.gov/](http://www.kids.gov/) - First Gov for Kids - provides links to Federal kids' sites and more

[www.kidsvotingusa.org](http://www.kidsvotingusa.org) - Kids Voting USA - all about voting for kids, plus teacher's sections

[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) - League of Women Voters

[www.lwvohio.org](http://www.lwvohio.org) - Ohio League of Women Voters

[www.ohiodems.org](http://www.ohiodems.org) - Ohio Democratic Party

[www.ohiogop.org](http://www.ohiogop.org) - Ohio Republican Party

[www.pbs.org/democracy/buildyourowncampaign](http://www.pbs.org/democracy/buildyourowncampaign) - PBS Democracy Project: Build Your Own Campaign – What's the Spin?

[www.politics1.com](http://www.politics1.com) - a comprehensive online guide to American politics, including a calendar of every primary and caucus for the 2004 presidential election

[www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/](http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/) - Ohio Secretary of State's site

[www.takeyourkidstovote.org/youth/index.htm](http://www.takeyourkidstovote.org/youth/index.htm) - all about voting for kids

[www.usdoj.gov/crt/voting/intro/intro.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/voting/intro/intro.htm) - U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Voting Section – background on voting rights laws

[www.usnewsclassroom.com/resources/activities/primaries/guide.html](http://www.usnewsclassroom.com/resources/activities/primaries/guide.html) - guide to the primaries

[www.vote-smart.org](http://www.vote-smart.org) - *Project Vote Smart*, go to Political Resources, Vote Smart Classroom

[www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/index.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/index.html) - a list of presidents of the United States

### Books:

*Constitution Translated for Kids* by Cathy Travis (Oakwood Publishing, 2001)