

## IECSS News for November 2023



*See the IECSS website, [www.iesocialstudies.net](http://www.iesocialstudies.net), for more grade level and subject resources, recent newsletters, and IECSS professional development videos.*

Welcome to this introduction to IECSS Newsletter for November. Our goal is to provide a one stop place to find ideas for new and effective classroom ideas, information about well-developed professional learning events and programs, resources for special days or months related to history or historic people, new projects or laws led by the California Department of Education such as Ethnic Studies, and upcoming conferences or events at which teachers may participate and build valuable networks among like-minded History-Social Science educators.

**Hold the  
Date**

**2023-24 IECSS History-Social Science  
Educators of Excellence Awards Program  
February 1, 2024  
5:00 pm-7:00 pm  
San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools West End  
Service Center  
8265 Aspen St. Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730**

Honor a fellow teacher at your school or a successful activity at a school site in your district that is effective in interpreting historical, economics related, or civics issues, resources, or problem. The nomination form may be completed for a H-SS Educator of Excellence by an administrator or fellow teacher. The nomination needs to show that the nominee has been talked to and observed. The flier for the February 1st celebration will be available soon.

**Professional Development Opportunities**

**LA County Office of Ed. Ethnic Studies Symposium Series:  
Chicana/o/x and Latina/o/x/ Studies**

November 7, 2023 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at  
La Plaza de Cultura y Artes, 502 N. Main Street, Los Angeles, CA  
90012  
(one city block from Los Angeles Union Station)

Deepen your knowledge and understanding of the history, culture, struggles, and contributions to American society of the Chicana/o/x and Latina/o/x community to prepare you to teach Ethnic Studies and commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month all year long. Speakers include Amber Gonzalez, Ph.D., Chicana and Chicano Studies from UC Santa Barbara, Professor, Ethnic studies, Fullerton College. The other speaker is Barbara Doten who will share teacher application

strategies using "Latino Leaders" book and curriculum. Day also includes a tour of the exhibit at LaPlaza, continental breakfast and lunch.

Sign up for the program at: <http://laoe.k12oms.org/1537-238118>

Cost: \$175

# # # #

### **Ethnic Studies in Elementary Classrooms How and Where to Begin**

Presenters:

Keith C. Barton, Professor of Curriculum & Instruction, Indiana Univ.  
Rebecca Valbuena, Teacher Educator, College of Ed & Integrative  
Studies, Cal Poly Pomona

***Wednesday, November 8, 2023***

***8:30 am – 3:30 pm***

***Los Angeles County Office of Education***

***12830 Columbia Way, Downey CA***

***Conference Room 606A***

Register for Follow-up after-school virtual sessions

January 25, 2024

March 14, 2024

Cost: Registration at LACOE <http://laoe.k12oms.org/1537-239597>

\$175 includes full day professional learning, materials, continental breakfast, and lunch as well as the after school virtual sessions

# # # #

### **Exploring Implicit Bias in the History-Social Science Classroom**

Presented by LACOE Content Literacy, Inquiry, Citizenship Team  
Experts

Barbara Doten, Sandra Line, and Michael Sabin

***Los Angeles County Office of Education***

***12830 Columbia Way***

***Downey, CA***

***November 14-15, 2023***

***8:30 am – 3:30 pm***

Participants will work collaboratively to identify specific opportunities in their curriculum and school contexts to create a more anti-racist, inclusive narrative that connects with more students and the communities they serve.

Register by November 3 at <http://laoe.k12oms.org/1537-235930>  
For additional information, please contact Michelle Herczog Coord. III,  
[Herczog\\_Michelle@laoe.edu](mailto:Herczog_Michelle@laoe.edu)

The Center for Economic Education offers  
Webinars to Celebrate Thanksgiving & Native American  
Heritage Month

**Webinars**

**Hurray for Turkey Day! Fun Econ Lessons and Activities for the  
Elementary Classroom**

<https://econedlink.org/webinar/hurray-for-turkey-day-fun-econ-lessons-and-activities-for-the-elementary-classroom/>

**November 7, 2023**

**4:00 pm Pacific Time**

Explore the concept of the value of using children's literature to engage the students' interest in cultural events.

**This webinar will support teachers of grades K-5.**

Everyone loves Turkey Day. Well, everyone but the turkey! Discover picture books that celebrate food, family, and fun while showcasing relatable economic concepts. Markets are meaningful and unintended consequences are hilarious as the students learn quick lessons to prepare them for a favorite holiday. To get started, find the list of children's books and the economic concepts that each provides at the link above.

**Commemorate Native American Heritage Month: Using Children's  
Literature to Teach Economic Concepts**

<https://econedlink.org/webinar/commemorate-native-american-heritage-month-using-childrens-literature-to-teach-economic-concepts/>

**November 14, 2023  
2:00 pm Pacific Time**

Celebrate November's Native American Heritage Month by using children's literature to teach economic concepts including scarcity, productive resources, specialization and trade. Discover creative methods to blend these concepts with Indigenous Peoples' history and current social and environmental issues.

Concepts: Human capital, opportunity cost, scarcity, trade, exchange and interdependence

**This webinar supports teachers of grades 3-8.**

### **Fun Econ Lessons and Activities for the Secondary Classroom**

#### **Sounds Like Economics**

<https://econedlink.org/webinar/sounds-like-economics/>

**November 15, 2023  
2:00 pm Pacific Time**

**This webinar supports teachers of grades 6-12**

In this webinar, teachers will learn how to leverage music as a powerful tool for connecting with students and enhancing their understanding of basic economic concepts.

### **Enhancing Student Engagement Through the Interdisciplinary Insights of Personal Finances**

**November 20, 2023  
4:00 pm Pacific Time**

Explore innovative strategies that bridge economics with other subjects to satisfy students' interests and to build connections between different subjects. The webinar shows teachers how to integrate personal finances into various academic areas, and spark student interest.

## Classroom Resource Materials

### iCivics

#### Private i History Detective Units for Grade 3

#### **What Strategies Did Native Nations Use to Protect Their Sovereignty During the American Revolutionary War?**

<https://www.icivics.org/teachers/privatei/how-did-opposition-laws-fuel-american-revolutionary-war>

In this inquiry-based unit, students will become more familiar with Native history and people in a manner that will expand understanding of topics included in National American Indian Heritage Month this November. Students will learn about some elements of Native sovereignty and its importance in American history. Students will be reminded about the key ideas of the American Revolutionary War and learn some information about how the Americans talked about Native people in the Declaration of Independence. The unit ends with students learning about strategies the Native nations used to protect their land and sovereignty during the American Revolution.

*Once you try this curriculum unit in class, you will want use many more iCivics Inquiry lessons designed for a wide range of learners.*

#### **Mock Election by iCivics Lesson for grades 6-8**

[https://www.icivics.org/teachers/lesson-plans/mock-election?utm\\_campaign=Elections%202023&utm\\_medium=email&hsmi=280362214&hsenc=p2ANqtz-8cWjuZLpN8tzqj0zc9SMDYxfW4FZI37HCRt7Q9qAri](https://www.icivics.org/teachers/lesson-plans/mock-election?utm_campaign=Elections%202023&utm_medium=email&hsmi=280362214&hsenc=p2ANqtz-8cWjuZLpN8tzqj0zc9SMDYxfW4FZI37HCRt7Q9qAri)

[WoQ5Mi64jsvsFNvOcnMVgX-iA7c3Fw21lqVe\\_mkPjV9ZooRfjQ&utm\\_content=280362214&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://www.icivics.org/node/2190/resource?utm_campaign=Elections%202023&utm_medium=email&hsmi=280362214&hsenc=p2ANqtz--ziETKk1UxCcBxEwVaf7HQqlhNxHt7XRILoEUEXuPe3ZO6aWOI489rWi8vwrTVzhvUVPQLi3ajiTkV-KoliVIPDUT7TQ&utm_content=280362214&utm_source=hs_email)

In this three-day mock election simulation lesson, students explain the steps taken from party formation to national election. Harnessing skills gained from the Electoral Process lesson, students will act out the campaigning and voting process by simulating a real election in their own classroom.

### **Cast Your Vote by iCivics** **This game is for grades 6-8 and 9-12**

[https://www.icivics.org/node/2190/resource?utm\\_campaign=Elections%202023&utm\\_medium=email&hsmi=280362214&hsenc=p2ANqtz--ziETKk1UxCcBxEwVaf7HQqlhNxHt7XRILoEUEXuPe3ZO6aWOI489rWi8vwrTVzhvUVPQLi3ajiTkV-KoliVIPDUT7TQ&utm\\_content=280362214&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://www.icivics.org/node/2190/resource?utm_campaign=Elections%202023&utm_medium=email&hsmi=280362214&hsenc=p2ANqtz--ziETKk1UxCcBxEwVaf7HQqlhNxHt7XRILoEUEXuPe3ZO6aWOI489rWi8vwrTVzhvUVPQLi3ajiTkV-KoliVIPDUT7TQ&utm_content=280362214&utm_source=hs_email)

Election Day is coming, are your students prepared to vote? In our completely reimagined Cast Your Vote, students will discover what it takes to become an informed voter — from knowing where they stand on important issues to uncovering what they need to know about candidates.

This new version of Cast Your Vote allows your students to simulate the voting process and:

- Learn about the importance of local elections
- Watch candidates discuss important issues in Town Hall debates
- Identify issues that matter to them and rate candidates' stances
- Collect their own notes on candidates within an in-game app

**School Observances**

**Holidays in the Public Schools: Dia de los Muertos or Day  
of the Dead  
November 1-2 2023**

<http://ca3rsproject.org/pdfs/dayofdeadious.pdf>

To honor the contributions of Mexican Americans to the rich cultural tapestry of the United States, many schools include Día de los Muertos (“Day of the Dead”) activities during the first couple of days of November. Some parents and teachers have argued that schools should not teach students the Day of the Dead because it is a religious holiday whose celebration is prohibited by church-state separation under in the First Amendment of the Constitution. A greater understanding of the history of this major Mexican American holiday and of the First Amendment will help educators decide the best way to teach about this significant cultural holiday. Information and resources for teachers is available at the CA3Rs Project at the Constitutional Rights Foundation website <http://ca3rsproject.org/pdfs/dayofdeadious.pdf>. Included in the article is how to make the careful distinction between learning religious rituals and beliefs and learning about examples of specific religious practices. The article not only provides suggestions about the elements of study about Dia de lost Muertos, it is supported with reviewed resources for classrooms.

**More classroom resources for Day of the Dead  
National Geographic Top 10 things to know about the Day of the  
Dead**

[https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/top-ten-day-of-dead-mexico?rid=3CA3B28234B7C72CD56199CF5AA520A7&cmpid=org%3Dngp%3A%3Amc%3Dcrm-email%3A%3Asrc%3Dngp%3A%3Acmp%3Deditorial%3A%3Aadd%3DDaily\\_NL\\_History\\_Saturday\\_2023\\_1028&loggedin=true&rnd=1698620176094](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/top-ten-day-of-dead-mexico?rid=3CA3B28234B7C72CD56199CF5AA520A7&cmpid=org%3Dngp%3A%3Amc%3Dcrm-email%3A%3Asrc%3Dngp%3A%3Acmp%3Deditorial%3A%3Aadd%3DDaily_NL_History_Saturday_2023_1028&loggedin=true&rnd=1698620176094)

**November is National Native American Heritage Month**



It is a time to celebrate the traditions, languages and stories of Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and affiliated Island communities and ensure their rich histories and contributions continue to thrive with each passing generation. This November we celebrate the culture and heritage of these remarkable Americans who deeply enrich the quality and character of our Nation. We celebrate Indian Country with its remarkable diversity of American Indian and Alaska Native cultures and peoples. We also remember and honor our Native American veterans who have sacrificed so much to defend our Nation.  
(U.S. Department of Interior Indian Affairs)

As early as 1916, when New York became the first state to declare an “American Indian Day,” efforts have been underway to acknowledge the many contributions and achievements of Native peoples. Since the early 20th century, there has been a strong national and state effort to reach out across the country to expand celebration of the Native Peoples’ contributions to the history of America and the world.

This has encouraged leaders in many branches of the U.S. government to expand the respect of Native contributions from one day a year to an entire month of study and celebration in schools. This

effort in the last decades in schools and communities have worked to expand public interest in and respect for the contributions of Native Peoples. For each November monthly celebration, the U.S. President creates a public declaration of the Native American Heritage Month.

Now the Library of Congress and the National Museum of the American Indian (Smithsonian Institution) have been the academic leads for schools across the U.S. in providing resources and access to documents related to Native Peoples and various times in history. Below is a selection of classroom materials that were provided this year.

## **Teaching Resources**

### **American Indian Removal: What Does It Mean to Remove a People? Grades 7-12**

This online lesson

(<https://americanindian.si.edu/nk360/resources/American-Indian-Removal-What-Does-It-Mean-Remove-People>) provides perspectives from

Native American community members, documents, maps, images, and activities to help students and teachers understand an important and difficult chapter in United States history. Explore the vast scope of removal and its effects on Native Nations.

### **We Have a Story to Tell:**

#### **Native Peoples of the Chesapeake Region**

**Source: National Museum of the American Indian for Grades 9-12**

<https://americanindian.si.edu/sites/1/files/pdf/education/chesapeake.pdf>

The history of the Native Americans of the Chesapeake region is a remarkable story of resilience and survival. For thousands of years, until the late sixteenth century, they were sustained by and lived in balance with a verdant, pristine, and generous environment. The region was heavily populated and vibrant with human activity. The people spoke languages that were part of the immense Algonquian language family. These lesson materials are designed to be a model for study of the Chesapeake Indians. After success with that part of

the lesson material, teachers should adapt it to the study of other Native peoples in other regions of America.

## **Closure**

We at the Inland Empire Council for the Social Studies are proud to share resources and programs with history social science educators in inland Southern California that are sent to us as part of the outreach to us by reviewed academic organizations, and museums along with offices of education and subject matter projects. Please share the newsletter with colleagues at your school that are not on our list. If you are the recipient of education opportunities that are not part of what you have seen in the IECSS newsletters, please share them with IECSS leaders at [iesocialstudies@gmail.com](mailto:iesocialstudies@gmail.com).

We are especially looking for teachers who are willing to share ideas with other teachers via our Zoom sessions. If you have an idea or two of useful H-SS content topics and/or strategies to improve learning for students use the email contact at [iesocialstudies@gmail.com](mailto:iesocialstudies@gmail.com)