

The Long Road to the Vote — Museum Exhibit

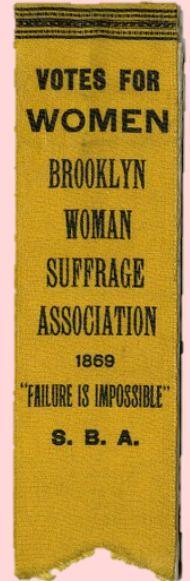


You are a museum curator preparing a new exhibit for *The History Cat Museum of American Democracy*.

Your job is to design a three-panel exhibit that tells visitors the story of how American women fought for — and finally won — the right to vote.

As curators, your mission is to:

- Choose artifacts (images, quotes, and headlines) that best represent each stage of the suffrage movement.
- Explain how the movement began, why progress stalled, and how it finally succeeded.
- Create an engaging visual display that teaches others the story clearly and accurately



Panel 2: The Roadblocks

TIMELINE

1861

1863

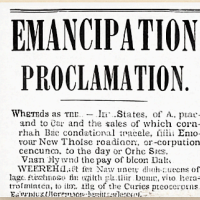
1865

Beginning Civil War



The Civil War began in 1861, forcing national attention away from other issues.

Emancipation Proclamation



The Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 shifted focus to the abolition of slavery.

End of the Civil War



The war concluded in 1865 with the Union's victory over the Confederacy.

The Civil War diverted attention and resources away from reform, while the focus on slavery divided reformers and led to fractures in the movement.

This is an example of how an exhibit panel might look for the American Civil War. This is only a template. Feel free to make changes so it fits your style and tells the story the way you think it should be told.

Your Objective: You're going to step into the role of a museum curator and build an exhibit about the women's suffrage movement — the people who led it, the obstacles they faced, and how they finally won.

Getting Started: Where to find your information: Start with the History Cat article [*"Fight for Women's Suffrage"*](#) — it's your go-to source and has most of what you need. But you may also want to do a Google search for a few images or to look up extra details on specific people or events.

How to complete this project: Use the Curator Worksheets to organize your research and plan out each part of your exhibit before you build anything. When your research is complete, use the Museum Exhibit PowerPoint Template to put it all together. Your finished exhibit should include:

1. Facts & information about key events and reformers
2. Images that connect to your topic (historical photos, portraits, posters)
3. Quotes from suffragists or opponents of the movement
4. Music from the era that fits the mood of your exhibit
5. Captions that explain what visitors are looking at and why its important.

Panel 1: The Roots of Reform



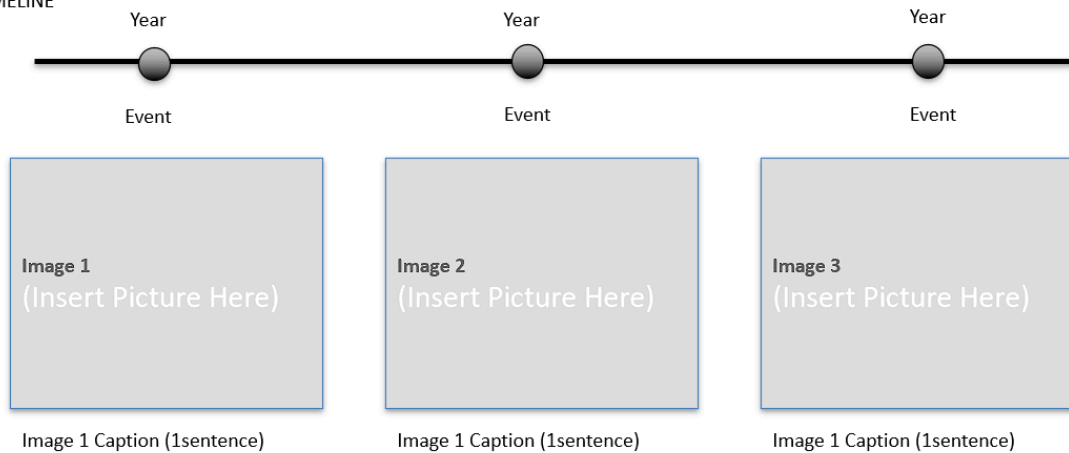
Panel 2: The Roadblocks



Panel 3: Achieving the Vote



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TIME
TIMELINE



Summary (2–3 sentences explaining this stage of the movement).

Gallery Walk Reflection Worksheet

Name: _____

Date:

Directions: Visit at least two different exhibits (not your own). For each one, record your thoughts below. Focus on what you learned, what surprised you, and what you think these exhibits reveal about the larger struggle for equality.

Exhibit 1

Title or Group: _____

1. What new ideas or perspectives did this exhibit highlight? (Something you hadn't considered or didn't include in your own project)

2. What obstacles or challenges stood out most in this exhibit? (Social, legal, or cultural barriers faced by women reformers)

3. How did this exhibit help you better understand why it took so long to achieve suffrage?