Program Overview

Civics Interactive
Making a Difference

*Civilics Interactive* is a brand new digital program from Savvas Learning Company. It’s designed to actively promote civic engagement for young adults in Grades 6-12. The curriculum develops important civic knowledge and life skills that will help students make a difference in their school and communities, and in our democracy.

Engage Students in Civic Life
- Make It Relevant
- Build Life Skills
- Inspire Action

Access Everything on Award-winning Savvas Realize™
Meet students where they are. *Civilics Interactive* engages students in current events, podcasts, video, media, and digital activities. You can access all assignments, assessments, and interactive student and teacher editions on the Savvas Realize™ Learning Management System.
Civics Program Dashboard
Find all your resources in one place. Civics Interactive makes it easy to access resources for the most effective and efficient civics instruction.

1. **Table of Contents**
   Click-and-go easy accessibility.

2. **Search and Filter**
   Find what you want and need.

3. **Browse by Category**
   The ultimate in simplicity and organization!

4. **Featured Resources**
   Tap into select content anytime.
Make It Relevant

Make Civics instruction personal by connecting history and daily events to students’ lives with thought-provoking content, activities, and media.

Listenwise® Podcasts

Daily news stories connect current events and topic ideas to make learning relevant and authentic.
Topic and Lesson Videos
A short video introduces skills by engaging students in personal stories of people and events.

Extension Activities
Open educational resources at point of use support your civics lessons. We’ve vetted the best of the best online resources for you.
SKILLS FOR CIVIC LIFE

Build Life Skills

Focus on building civic knowledge and life skills. Civics Interactive helps you develop community-minded citizens through a hands-on, life-skill approach.

Skills-Focused Civics Learning

Topic Life Skill

Each Topic focuses on an important life skill, such as problem solving, teamwork, or evaluating media. The skill is broken down into sub skills that are the focus of each lesson.

Topic Skills Video

Each Topic starts with a compelling Skill Video to introduce essential practices and promote critical thinking.
Skills Tracker

Students monitor and track their progress as they develop important life skills. It's a great way to motivate students and foster independence.

Lesson Connect Skill Visual

A skills video, photo, or test prompt helps you introduce the lesson skill and prompt discussion in a visual way.
Inspire Action

Student-centered inquiry projects inspire action and foster critical thinking skills. *Civics Interactive* provides a robust online Inquiry Center with inquiry projects, activities, and teacher support at the ready. Encourage students to get involved, participate, and engage in civic life at all times throughout the course.

Students can make a difference in their community.

Inquiry Center

Connect students’ learning in authentic ways. The Inquiry Center will engage students actively in their community. Using the Interest Finder, students can identify topics they care about and want to investigate. The Center offers step-by-step suggestions for student projects, as well as rubrics for gauging success.
Types of Student Inquiry

The Inquiry Center offers four types of student-centered inquiry. The Center also supports free inquiry where students create their own projects.

1. Community Involvement Inquiry
2. Leadership Skills Inquiry
3. Influence Public Opinion Inquiry
4. Public Policy Inquiry
5. Create Your Own Inquiry
Topic Planning

The Topic Planner gives you a clear picture of upcoming lessons. Topic skills, resources, routines, and pacing suggestions help you achieve your goals.

1. **Learning Model**
   Each lesson has three parts:
   1. **Connect** to the sub skill and content.
   2. **Investigate** through a variety of resources.
   3. **Demonstrate** in a manageable, bite-size way.

2. **Fast Track**
   Do these activities when you have limited time.

3. **Pacing**
   How much time do I spend? Each lesson includes recommendations in periods and minutes.

4. **Act On It Activity**
   Students do a hands-on activity where they get out of their seats and work together.

5. **Take Action**
   Performance-based activities in every lesson emphasize doing and thinking rather than just memorizing facts.

---

### Topic Planner

**Who Are We?**

**Skill** Get Involved in Your Community

**Essential Question** Why is community important?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic Planner</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Pacing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lesson 1</strong></td>
<td>We the People (2.5 periods/115 mins)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lesson 2</strong></td>
<td>Your Rights and Responsibilities (2.5 periods/115 mins)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Skill</strong></td>
<td><strong>ANALYZE DATA</strong></td>
<td><strong>RESEARCH YOUR COMMUNITY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Connect</strong></td>
<td><strong>Investigate</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Demonstrate</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topic Video</strong></td>
<td>Students learn about getting involved in their community by meeting two young women who have been helping others since they were in middle school.</td>
<td>10 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Listenwise Current Events</strong></td>
<td>Find news stories relevant to this topic using search terms including “citizenship” and “liberty.”</td>
<td>20 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topic Reflection</strong></td>
<td>Ask students to respond to the video and record their thoughts about community involvement in the Topic Reflection Sheet.</td>
<td>20-30 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inquiry Center</strong></td>
<td>Introduce a project focused on active citizenship using the Inquiry Center.</td>
<td>15 mins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Constitution Protects Your Rights

Preview the Topic Skills and Content
Students learn about amendments to the U.S. Constitution that have added rights and protections for the American people. They practice and build the skill of defending the rights of others.

- **Lesson 1** Students practice the skill of gathering information as they learn about the first ten amendments, the Bill of Rights. These amendments spell out individual freedoms, protections against the government's abuse of power, and the rights of citizens accused of crimes.
- **Skill Gathering Information**

- **Lesson 2** Students learn to consider many perspectives as they investigate later amendments that further protected rights, especially the protection against enslavement and the right to vote.
- **Skill Consider Many Perspectives**

- **Lesson 3** Students learn how to join with allies, as they think about the connection between rights and the common good.
- **Skill Join With Allies**

- **Lesson 4** Students are introduced to the skill of sharing their views, as they learn about several Supreme Court cases related to individual rights.
- **Skill Share Your View**

Teacher Background
To teach the content of this topic, you should be familiar with the following concepts:

- The Bill of Rights and other Constitutional amendments protect individual freedoms and protect people against abuse of power by the government.
- The Supreme Court has interpreted the meaning of the amendments in important cases over the years. They have determined the meaning and the limitations of the rights and freedoms discussed by the amendments.
- Sometimes there is tension between individual rights and the common good.

Common Misconceptions

- The 1st Amendment is most important because it is listed first. Actually, the 1st Amendment was the third amendment in the original bill of rights. The first two were not approved, so the third became the one we know today as the 1st Amendment.
- It’s a free country, so people can do and say whatever they want. This is indeed a free country, but our freedoms and rights still have limitations. In broadest terms, people may not exercise their rights in such a way that they violate other people’s rights. For example, you cannot say something that will incite others to violence and you cannot willfully lie about someone in a way that damages that person’s reputation or livelihood.

Topic Overview
Get a quick preview of each topic, teaching tips, background, common misconceptions, and more.
Lesson At-a-Glance

*Civics Interactive* helps you reduce planning time, so you can focus on teaching. The Lesson At-a-Glance details objectives, vocabulary, resources, extension activities, pacing, and more. It will save you hours each week.

1. **Estimated Time**
   "How much time do I spend?" Use these recommendations.

2. **Skill Video**
   "Where do I begin?" The Skill Video is a great way to focus students’ attention.

3. **Primary Sources**
   "I know primary sources are critical, but which one fits?" Primary sources are identified!
Skills Progression

“How do I help students make progress?” Each lesson is sequenced to master topic skills.

Extension Activities

“I wish I had more time to find great open ed resources.” Here are the best ideas.

Exit Tickets

“How do I make my lesson measurable?” Add Exit Tickets to quickly check student understanding.
Create a playlist of activities for individual students, groups, or the whole class.

Assign interactive primary resources for critical thinking.

Link directly to vetted open educational resources that support your instruction.

Develop global citizens with the Geography Handbook.
Start an **online discussion** with your students.

Engage students with an interactive, skill-building game.

Support life skills with premade **Act On It Activity Sheets**.

Help students ask critical questions with short, highly focused **skill videos**.

Familiarize students with landmark **Supreme Court** cases.

Connect your lesson to a current news event with **Listenwise®** podcasts.
Making a Difference in Students’ Lives

Request an Online Demo: Savvas.com/Civics
Integrates with your favorite edtech tools for easy implementation.