

Centennial of the 19th Amendment - Resources for K-5 Teachers

Grades 3-5

Kids Voting USA lessons/activities (free, register at <https://kidsvotingusa.org/>)

1. *The Day Gogo Went to Vote* - Synopsis: Read-aloud book about peoples' first opportunities to vote. *The Day Gogo Went to Vote* is not available at NOLS. Maybe school libraries have it. Another useful alternative is *Granddaddy's Turn* by Bandy and Stein (would need to adapt questions re: South Africa comparisons.) *Granddaddy's Turn* is a black boy's perspective of remembering when his grandfather was wrongly turned away from his polling place and the influence it had on the boy as he grew to voting age. A short read, +/- 10 minutes without question time. Involves **parent participation** (students ask parents about doing something for the first time). The plan includes a Venn diagram tool that is useful for all ages. There are 7 questions, which are easy to filter for appropriate grade level.
2. *Nonvoter Simulation* - Synopsis: students participate in a simulated vote. Over the course of three days, teams come up with issues on which to vote and spend three days voting. Different restrictions are put on the voting (for example, only those born in January or February are eligible, all others are turned away.) Students discuss their reactions to inclusion/exclusion afterward. Activity that will engage students and potentially have FUN as well as learn. A very good illustration of voter disenfranchisement for all ages. Requires more time: Students take 3 days to come up with issues on which to vote, then voting on 3 days. Good for all grade levels, but some questions require more thought.
3. *Suffrage Timeline* - Synopsis: Students are given a timeline of landmark events to discuss, then answer questions. More academic approach. Good for older students, especially questions. Has a research/treasure hunt feel to the activity.

Grade K-5 Read aloud book list (available through the North Olympic Library System)



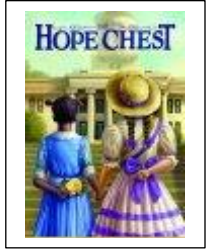
Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the Right to Vote written by Tanya Lee Stone, illustrated by Rebecca Gibbon

This junior biography tells the story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton who knew from an early age that women/girls weren't equal to men/boys. Elizabeth went to college, met other women who shared her views and worked with Susan B. Anthony and others to get women the right to vote. Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year 2009 Gr. 1-3



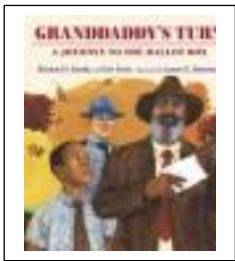
Grace for President written by Kelly DiPucchio, illustrated by LeUyen Pham

Grace is shocked to learn that there's never been a woman president, so she decides to run for president in her grade's mock election. This book provides an introduction to the electoral college and how to choose a leader. Gr. K-3 (Realistic fiction)



The Hope Chest by Karen Schwabach

Violet is 11 years old when she runs away from home and takes a train to find her sister who's a suffragist in New York City. Violet ends up in Nashville, Tennessee at the end of the suffrage fight where the critical vote on the 19th Amendment will take place. The book deals with the issues of Jim Crow laws, Prohibition, racism, war and women's rights. Included at the end of the book are period photographs, historical notes on the suffrage movement and a timeline of voting in America. It's also a New York State Curriculum title for 4th grade and is highly recommended by the Historical Novel Society, "Their adventures, in both North and South, involve readers in the pains and shames of the segregated world, as well as what it was like to be part of the fight for voting rights. Packed with historical detail and chock full of plucky and engaging characters of both sexes, *The Hope Chest* is highly recommended." Gr. 4-5



Granddaddy's Turn: A Journey to the Ballot Box by Michael Bandy, Eric Stein and James Ransome

Beautifully illustrated picture book based on a real story of struggle for voting rights in the civil rights-era south. A touching story of a young black boy's memory of growing up in the South and his Granddaddy's teachings about hard work and patience. Granddaddy is so proud when blacks get the right to vote, so he proudly walks with the boy to the polling station for his first time to vote. But he is challenged by a deputy to prove he could read, and he was unable to read a difficult passage. The sad walk home creates a strong memory in the boy, who promises to vote for him one day. Years later he dedicates his first voting experience to his Granddaddy. Touching, sad story, but a real example of the struggle for Southern blacks at the ballot box. Highly recommended read aloud for 2-5th graders.



Lillian's Right to Vote by Jonah Winter and Shana W. Evans

Lillian is 100 years old. As she walks to the polling place she remembers the long road to being able to vote as an African American. This book celebrates the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and acknowledges the struggles along the way. The author's note provides historical information and lets readers know that voter suppression is still an issue today. This is an excellent look at voting rights issues in the United States. Gr. 3-5 (Historical picture book)



Women's Suffrage, from the BlastBack series by Nancy Ohlin

Non-fiction, factual, 107 pages, illustrated in B&W, reading level about 4th grade. Explains on a basic elementary level women's suffrage and its history. Appropriate read aloud & discussion book, or independent guided reading for 4-5 graders. Organized in 12 short chapters each on a specific topic such as: the meaning of suffrage; why women's suffrage is important; the British suffrage movement; important women in world events; American suffrage movement; the Nineteenth Amendment; and women's suffrage continues. Recommended, not highly interesting, but good information that could lead to discussion.

Video (Gr. 3-5)

Women's Right to Vote – A Kid Explains History, Episode 18

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d-RR8cvvnMo> 100 years ago women couldn't vote. This 4 minute video explains how Suffragists changed things.