

Constitutional Amendments That Protect the Rights of Citizens

6th grade Social Studies

Alabama Course of Study Standards:

- **SS24.6.17c:** Identify constitutional amendments that expand political rights for citizens and describe the efforts of citizens to secure these rights.
 - Examples: 13th, 14th, 15th, 17, 19th, 23rd, 24th, and 26th amendments.
- **SS24.6.18a:** Identify and describe ways citizens work together to influence the government to solve problems.
- **SS24.6.18b:** Differentiate between the requirements, responsibilities, and rights for citizenship in the United States.

Essential Question:

How do constitutional amendments protect and expand the rights of U. S. citizens?

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this week, students will be able to:

- Identify key constitutional amendments that expanded political rights.
- Explain the historical efforts made by citizens to secure these rights.
- Describe how citizens influence government through activism and civic engagement.
- Understand the differences between the rights, responsibilities, and requirements of U.S. citizenship.

Weekly Overview:

Day	Focus	Activities	Vocabulary
Monday	Introduction to the Constitution and Amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Read and discuss a summary of the Constitution and Bill of Rights● Introduce the concept of amendments	Constitution, Bill of Rights, Amendment
Tuesday	Civil Rights Amendments (13 th , 14 th , and 15 th)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Group reading: Each group focuses on one amendment	Abolition, Citizenship, Voting Rights

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class presentation and discussion 	
Wednesday	Expanding Voting Rights (17 th , 19 th , 23 rd , 24 th , and 26 th)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a timeline showing when each voting amendment was passed • Discuss who gained rights and why. 	Suffrage, Poll Tax, Electoral Vote
Thursday	Citizens working together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Study: Civil Rights Movements or Women's Suffrage Movement • Small group discussion on how people created change. 	Protest, Petition, Activism
Friday	Citizenship: Rights, Responsibilities, and Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive citizenship quiz. • Class discussion: What does it mean to be a good citizen? 	Rights, Responsibilities, Naturalization

Assessment and Activities:

Formative Assessments:

- Exit tickets, Think-Pair-Share, Group Presentations

Summative Assessment (Friday):

Short written response:

- Choose one amendment we studied this week. Explain what it changed and why it was important to U.S. citizens.

Project Option (Extension):

- Create a "Citizenship Poster" showing rights, responsibilities, and one example of citizen action.

Materials Needed:

- Copies of simplified constitutional amendments
- Timeline worksheet
- Chart paper/markers
- Access to video or digital resources on Civil Rights Movement
- Tablet (computer)