2025 RI LAW DAY THE CONSTITUTION'S PROMISE: OUT OF MANY, ONE



This year's theme The **Constitution's Promise: Out of Many, One** recognizes that The United States Constitution embodies our collective responsibility to one another and urges us to take pride in a Constitution that bridges our differences to bring us together as One, one united nation, the United States of America. Listed below are curriculum units and additional resources supporting this year's theme.



RESOURCES:

American Bar Association 2025 Law Day Lesson Plans

- American Values that Unite Us: Relevant Quotes as Discussion Prompts
- <u>Courts, Judicial Review, Independent Judiciary</u>

Videos

Constitution 101

Watch here

An overview video from the National Constitution Center exploring the core ideas and structure of the U.S. Constitution.

Citizens Unite! A Helpful Guide to Being a Better Citizen

Watch here

A short, student-friendly video explaining simple ways to participate in democracy and contribute to your community.

Can the Constitution Still Unite Us? A Conversation with Yuval Levin Watch here

An engaging conversation on how constitutional principles bring Americans together and can continue to do so today.

Charter of Unity: Can the Constitution Bring Americans Together?

Watch here

A reflection on how the Constitution serves as a unifying framework for the United States.

Websites and Lesson Plans

Library of Congress

<u>loc.gov</u>

Offers primary source materials including historical documents, maps, and newspaper archives related to the U.S. Constitution and its development.

National Archives – DocsTeach and Constitution Resources

archives.gov

Provides digital access to founding documents, including the Constitution, and engaging activities to help students understand their historical context and significance.

HMH Foundation – Celebrate Your Rights hmhfoundation.org

This site offers student-centered civic learning tools like Democracy at Play and A Classroom Bill of Rights, adaptable for a variety of grade levels.

National Constitution Center - Classroom Resource Library constitutioncenter.org/education/classroom-resource-library

Lesson plans, videos, and games designed to help students understand the Constitution.

Constitutional Rights Foundation - Teach Democracy

teachdemocracy.org

Civics resources and interactive lessons focused on civic responsibility and constitutional values.

Annenberg Classroom - Constitution: What It Says, What It Means

annenbergclassroom.org

An interactive guide to the full Constitution, explained in accessible language for middle and high school students.

Bill of Rights Institute – E Pluribus Unum Lesson

Access the Lesson Plan

This lesson plan examines Federalist No. 51 to explore how the Constitution balances many interests to unite the country, embodying the principle of "E pluribus unum" (Out of many, one).

United States Courts – The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution Access the Lesson Plan

An educational resource that delves into the Preamble, discussing its intentions and how it sets the stage for the Constitution's role in uniting the nation.

Related Publications

Amar, Akhil Reed. <u>The Bill of Rights: Creation and Reconstruction.</u> Yale University Press, 1998. A deeper look at how the Bill of Rights was formed and interpreted over time.

Bowen, Catherine Drinker. <u>Miracle at Philadelphia: The Story of the Constitutional</u> <u>Convention</u>. Little, Brown, 1986. A narrative account of the Constitutional Convention that's accessible and engaging.

Bernstein, Richard B. <u>Are We to Be a Nation? The Making of the Constitution</u>. Harvard University Press, 1987.

A comprehensive history of how the Constitution came to be, written for general audiences.

Beeman, Richard. <u>Plain, Honest Men: The Making of the American Constitution</u>. Random House, 2009.

An accessible and compelling account of the personalities and debates that shaped the final document.

Kammen, Michael. <u>A Machine That Would Go of Itself: The Constitution in American Culture</u>. Knopf, 1986.

Explores how the Constitution has influenced and reflected American life across generations.





The 2025 RI Law Day Program Guide & Additional Resources are presented by the Rhode Island Law Day Committee comprised of members of the Rhode Island Judiciary, Rhode Island Bar Association, Rhode Island Police Chief's Association, Rhode Island Department of Education, and the Roger Williams University School of Law.