

Reading Current Events Through Core Concepts

Grade Level: 3-12
Duration: 45 minutes

Objectives:

- Identify Core Concepts within a news story
- Analyze the story according to Core Concepts

Curricular Connections: Civics

Materials: News stories that feature young people taking public action or otherwise being involved in politics.

Procedure:

- 1) Have students review three to four key concepts—e.g. interest, power, politics, diversity. Include student definitions and PA definitions.
- 2) Students will read news stories looking for the concepts (this can be done individually or in pairs). Tell them that the actual words may not be in the article, but you are looking for ideas or events where concepts apply.
- 3) With highlighters, have students highlight sentences where they find concepts.
- 4) Students will write short paragraphs explaining where and in what context they found each concept.

Reflection:

- Groups will explain to the class where they found the concepts in the story.
- Discuss why students found concepts in different places and what the stories were about.
- Ask students how concepts help them think about stories differently.

Assessment:

1. Written paragraphs that demonstrate ability to correctly identify concepts
2. Discussion to gauge depth of students' understandings of concepts.

Source: Roudy Hildreth