

# Using RU Ready Civics Fair Materials in Your Classroom

Our Civics Fair materials can make for a great school-wide event fitted with interactive stations, but they also work well as supplemental materials for classroom lessons. Reference this teacher guide for two ways to use Civics Fair materials in your classroom. Click the underlined hyperlinks to access worksheets directly.

## *Supplemental Worksheets*

### 1. **Media Literacy:**

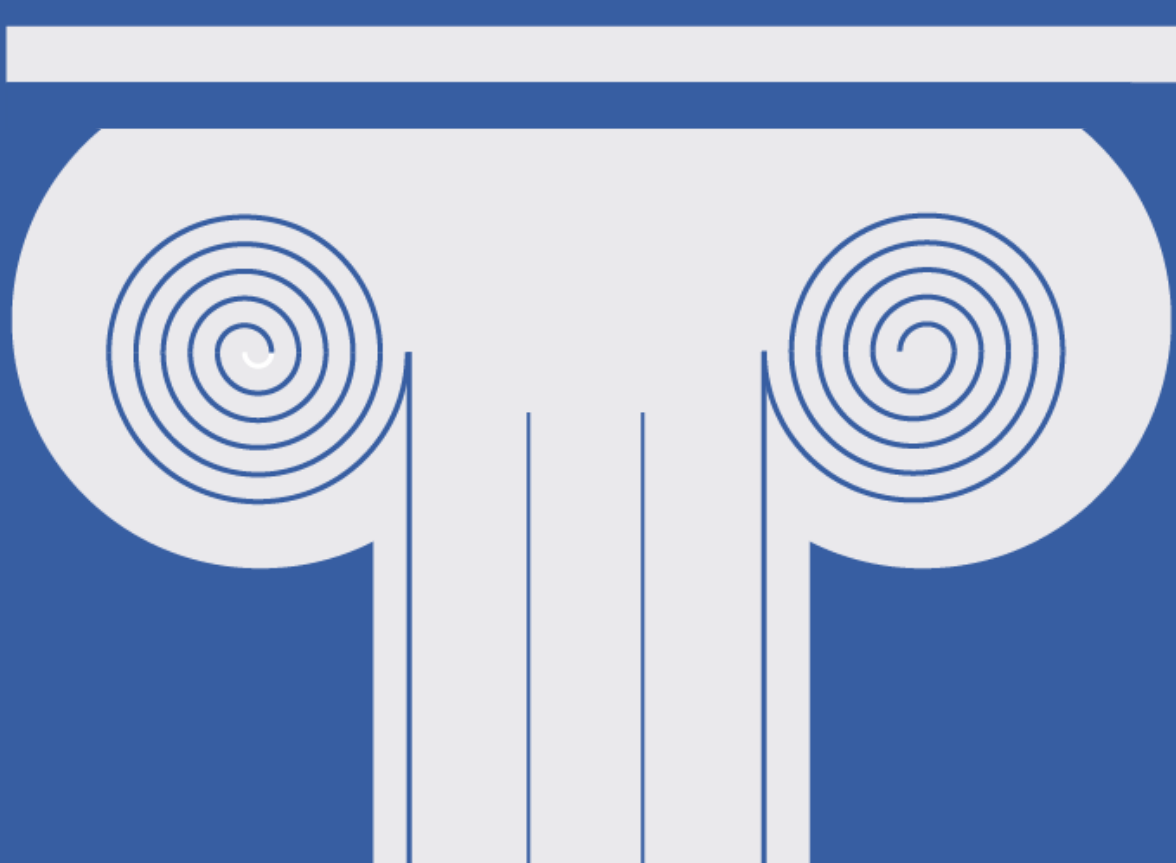
- Use our [Judging the Accuracy of News](#) worksheet to help students assess individual articles and news sources when you review media literacy skills in class. Or, assign this worksheet to be completed alongside research for current events readings and presentations.

### 2. **The Elections Process:**

- If you are reviewing a historical or current election in class or teaching the elections process, assign our [Election Calendar Template](#) so students can identify important elections dates. If an election is coming up, encourage political engagement by assigning our [Supporting a Campaign Worksheet](#).

### 3. **The Structure of Government:**

- Utilize our Identifying Elected Officials worksheets for [local](#), [county](#), [state](#), and [federal](#) levels of government in lessons reviewing the structure of government. Whether the lesson covers the branches of government, federalism, or the role of individuals and bodies of government, encourage students to learn who represents them in office.



## ***Civic Action Project***

All Civics Fair materials complement each other, but a combination like this one makes for a short-term project that encourages students to assess issues in their own communities. Have students choose an issue prevalent in their community or on the news, and assign them to create an action plan to address that issue. Explore more Civics Fair materials to match your classroom's needs here!

### **1. Paying Attention**

- Begin with cognitive engagement: have students research their chosen issues and complete the [“Judging the Accuracy of News”](#) worksheet for at least one news source. Assign students to partners or small groups to discuss the issues and share the information they read about.

### **2. Getting Political**

- For political engagement, ask students to research the officials representing them in [local](#), [county](#), [state](#), and [federal](#) government with our Identifying Elected Officials templates. Have students compile a list of elected officials with an interest or stake in solving their chosen issue.

### **3. Speaking Out**

- Prepare students for expressive engagement: have students write a letter to elected officials or prepare a petition using our [Writing a Letter Worksheet](#) and [Writing a Petition Worksheet](#). Or, have students create a plan to advocate for their issues on social media using our [Using Social Media for Advocacy Guide](#).

### **4. Volunteering**

- Finally, encourage students to be problem solvers and promote civic engagement. Depending on the nature of each student's issue, have them complete our [Creating Your Own Fundraiser Guide](#) and/or our [Service Project Planning Template](#).