Curriculum Standards
Acting Out Your Rights

Common Core Standards
*English Language Arts (Grades 3-8)*

**Speaking & Listening**
4. Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

**Literacy**
6. Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate conversational, general academic, and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal spatial and temporal relationships.

National Social Studies Standards
*Civics (By the End of Grade 8)*

- D2.Civ.3.6-8. Examine the origins, purposes, and impact of constitutions, laws, treaties, and international agreements.
- D2.Civ.5.6-8. Explain the origins, functions, and structure of government with reference to the U.S. Constitution, state constitutions, and selected other systems of government.
- D2.Civ.8.6-8. Analyze ideas and principles contained in the founding documents of the United States, and explain how they influence the social and political system.

DC Social Studies Standards
*Grade 4*

4.10. Students describe the people and events associated with the development of the U.S. Constitution.

1. Describe the significance of the new Constitution of 1787, including the struggles over its ratification and the reasons for the Bill of Rights. (P)
2. Describe how the Constitution is designed to secure our liberty by both empowering and limiting central government. (P)
3. Understand the meaning of the American creed that calls on citizens to safeguard the liberty of individual Americans within a unified nation, to respect the rule of law, and to preserve the Constitution. (P)
DC Social Studies Standards

Grade 8

8.3. Students analyze the political principles underlying the U.S. Constitution, and they compare the enumerated and implied powers of the federal government.

4. Evaluate the major debates that occurred during the development of the Constitution and their ultimate resolutions in such areas as shared power among institutions, divided state-federal power, slavery, the rights of individuals and states (later addressed by the addition of the Bill of Rights), and the status of American Indian nations. (P)

6. Describe the principles of federalism, dual sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, the nature and purpose of majority rule, and the ways in which the American idea of constitutionalism preserves individual rights. (P)

9. Describe the powers of government set forth in the Constitution and the fundamental liberties ensured by the Bill of Rights. (P)

10. Explain the need and reasons for amendments to the Constitution. (P)

Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL)

Grade 3 Social Studies

Civics

3.11 The student will explain the responsibilities of a good citizen, with emphasis on
a) respecting and protecting the rights and property of others;

3.12 The student will recognize the importance of government in the community, Virginia, and the United States of America by
a) explaining the purpose of laws;
b) explaining that the basic purposes of government are to make laws, carry out laws, and decide if laws have been broken; and
   c) explaining that government protects the rights and property of individuals.
Grade 3 English

3.1 The student will use effective communication skills in a variety of settings.
   a) Use active listening strategies including, but not limited to, making eye contact, facing the speaker, asking questions, and summarizing.
   b) Present accurate directions to individuals and small groups.
   c) Ask and respond to questions from teachers and other group members.
   d) Orally summarize information expressing ideas clearly.
   e) Use language appropriate for context and audience.
   f) Increase listening and speaking vocabularies.
   g) Participate in collaborative discussions.
   h) Work respectfully with others in pairs, diverse groups, and whole class settings.

3.2 The student will give oral presentations
   a) Speak clearly using appropriate volume.
   b) Speak at an understandable rate.
   c) Make eye contact with the audience.
   d) Organize ideas sequentially or around major points of information using appropriate facts and relevant details.
   e) Use contextually appropriate language and specific vocabulary to communicate ideas.

Grade 8 Civic & Economics
CE.2 The student will apply social science skills to understand the foundations of American constitutional government by
   a) explaining the fundamental principles of consent of the governed, limited government, rule of law, democracy, and representative government;
   b) examining and evaluating the impact of the Magna Carta, charters of the Virginia Company of London, the Virginia Declaration of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom on the Constitution of Virginia and the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights;
CE.3 The student will apply social science skills to understand citizenship and the rights, duties, and responsibilities of citizens by
b) describing the First Amendment freedoms of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition, and the rights guaranteed by due process and equal protection of the laws.

CE.9 The student will apply social science skills to understand the judicial systems established by the Constitution of Virginia and the Constitution of the United States by
d) explaining how due process protections seek to ensure justice.

Grade 8 English
8.1 The student will participate in, collaborate in, and report on small-group learning activities.
   a) Assume responsibility for specific group tasks and share responsibility for collaborative work within diverse teams.
   b) Exhibit willingness to make necessary compromises to accomplish a goal.
   c) Collaborate with others to exchange ideas, develop new understandings, make decisions, and solve problems.
   d) Include all group members, and value individual contributions made by each group member.
   e) Make statements to communicate agreement or tactful disagreement with others’ ideas.
   f) Use a variety of strategies to listen actively and speak using appropriate discussion rules with awareness of verbal and nonverbal cues.

8.2 The student will develop and deliver multimodal, interactive presentations collaboratively and individually.
   a) Select, organize, and create multimodal content that encompasses opposing points of view.
   b) Choose vocabulary and tone appropriate to the audience, topic, and purpose.
   c) Use effective verbal and nonverbal communication skills to deliver multimodal presentations.
   d) Cite information sources.
   e) Respond to audience questions and comments.
   f) Differentiate between Standard English and informal language.
Maryland State Social Studies Standards

3rd Grade Social Studies
A. The Foundations and Function of Government
2. Explain how certain practices are connected with the democratic principles of being a citizen
   a. Identify and explain democratic principles, such as individual rights and responsibilities, patriotism, common good, justice and equality

4th Grade Social Studies
C. Protecting Rights and Maintaining Order
   1. Describe rights and responsibilities of being a citizen in Maryland
      a. Describe responsibilities associated with certain basic rights of citizens, such as freedom of speech, religion, and press, and explain why these responsibilities are important

5th Grade Social Studies
A. The Foundations and Function of Government
   2. Analyze the historic events, documents, & practices that are the foundations of our political systems
      a. Explain the significance of principles in the development of the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, Preamble, U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights

C. Protecting Rights and Maintaining Order
   1. Describe individual rights and responsibilities in the United States
      a. Describe responsibilities associated with certain basic rights of citizens, such as freedom of speech, religion, and press, and explain why these responsibilities are important
   2. Evaluate how the United States government protects the rights of individuals and groups
      a. Explain the balance between providing for the common good and protecting individual rights
Curriculum Standards
Acting Out Your Rights

8th Grade Social Studies

Standard 1.0 Civics
A. The Foundations and Function of Government

2. Analyze the impact of historic documents and practices that became the foundations of the American political system during the early national period
d. Describe the significance of principles in the development of the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, Preamble, U.S. Constitution & the Bill of Rights

C. Protecting Rights and Maintaining Order

1. Examine the impact of governmental decisions on individual rights and responsibilities in the United States
   a. Describe responsibilities associated with certain basic rights of citizens, such as freedom of speech, religion, and press, and explain why these responsibilities are important

3. Examine the principle of due process
   a. Identify how due process of law protects individuals
   b. Describe the due process protections in the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment