



Suffrage Movement Lesson

Lesson written by Tina Lyons

STANDARDS:

United States History Standards:

Era 7: The Emergence of Modern America (1890-1930)

- Standard 3A: The student understands social tensions and their consequences in the postwar era.
- Standard 3D: The student understands politics and international affairs in the 1920s.

LESSON:

Divide the class into groups to study the life of one of the national leaders of the suffrage movement. Examples of women to study include: Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucy Stone, Isabella Beecher Hooker, Sojourner Truth and many more. Records to aid your study include:

- Printed biographies
- Census records
- Vital records
- Historical newspapers
- City directories

As a class, discuss why each of these women may have been motivated to become leaders in the suffrage movement. Also, discuss each woman's role in the movement.

- What were their reasons for joining the movement?
- What resources did they have to aid the movement?
- How did they encourage others to join the movement?
- What was each woman's greatest impact to the movement?
- What other rights were these women trying to gain for other women?

Search historical newspapers for the stories of suffragettes and suffrage movement events in your community. Examine voter's lists for your community to see how women's voting rights were enacted in your community or state.

- Who were the leaders of the suffrage movement in your community?
- What was your community's opinion of giving women the right to vote?
- What events led to suffrage in your state?
- Who were the first women to vote in your community?
- When was the first woman allowed to vote in your community?
- How were election results possibly impacted by women's votes?