Incorporating Vermont PBS Into Your Classroom

Program: *Ken Burns in the Classroom*   **Grade(s):** 4-12

Ways to watch: [Ken Burns series website](#), Vermont PBS broadcast stations, [PBS franchise website](#)

About: "Ken Burns and his collaborators have been creating historical documentary films for more than forty years. Known for a signature style that brings primary source documents, images, and archival video footage to life on screen, these films present the opportunity to pose thought-provoking questions for students, and introduce new ideas, perspectives, and primary sources". (PBS)

Primary Connection to the [College, Career and Civic Life C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards](#)

The topics covered by Ken Burns' films span the gamut- ranging from deep and difficult events in American History, such as the Civil and Vietnam Wars and Watergate, to topics that identify America, such as baseball, country music, and our National Parks. For this reason, it is difficult to select discipline-specific content standards (D2) within the C3, and we have therefore highlighted Inquiry (D1 and Evaluating Sources and Using Evidence (D3) as standards on which to build learning. The content provided by Ken Burns' films allows for student development of both questions to frame an inquiry, as well as evidenced-based claims to support arguments.

Dimension and Subsection	*Indicator(s)*
Dimension 1 Inquiry Developing Compelling Questions	D1.1.9-12. Explain how a question reflects an enduring issue in the field. D1.2.9-12. Explain points of agreement and disagreement experts have about interpretations and applications of disciplinary concepts and ideas associated with a compelling question.
Determining Helpful Sources	D1.5.9-12. Determine the kinds of sources that will be helpful in answering compelling and supporting questions, taking into consideration multiple points of view represented in the sources, the types of sources available, and the potential uses of the sources.
Dimension 3 Evaluating Sources and Using Evidence Gathering Evidence and Evaluating Sources	D3.1.9-12. Gather relevant information from multiple sources representing a wide range of views while using the origin, authority, structure, context, and corroborative value of the sources to guide the selection. D3.2.9-12. Evaluate the credibility of a source by examining how experts value the source.

Dimension and Subsection	Indicator(s)
Developing Claims and Using Evidence	D3.3.9-12. Identify evidence that draws information directly and substantively from multiple sources to detect inconsistencies in evidence in order to revise or strengthen claims.

Connections between the [College, Career and Civic Life C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards](#) and the [Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy](#)

C3 Dimension and Subsection	Common Core State Standards for ELA Anchor Standards	Shared Language
Dimension 1 - Inquiry	Reading Standard 1; Writing Standard 7; Speaking and Listening Standard 1	Questioning; Argument; Explanation; Point of View
Dimension 3 - Evaluating Sources and Using Evidence	Reading Standards 1–10; Writing Standards 1, 2, 7–10	Argument; Sources; Evidence; Claims, Counterclaims; Gather

Resources: Use the following carefully curated resources to support teaching Social Studies and more using *Ken Burns in the Classroom:*
- [Ken Burns: Programming and Resources](#)
- [Ken Burns UNUM](#)
- [PBS Learning Media collection](#)
- [PBS series website](#)
- [COVID Related](#)
- [AOE Continuity of Learning](#)
- [PBS franchise website](#)

Other PBS programs with connections to Social Studies and English Language Arts:
1. American Masters
    a. [PBS Learning Media collection](#)
    b. [Series website](#)

2. History Detectives
    a. [PBS Learning Media Collection](#)
    b. [Series website](#)

3. Latino Americans
    a. [PBS Learning Media Collection](#)
    b. [Series website](#)

4. American Experience
    a. [PBS Learning Media Collection](#)
    b. [Series website](#)

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