



Women's Rights and Social Media

Women's Rights National Historical Park

Essential Question: How can we use social media to share the stories of reformers and their fight for Women's Rights?

Objectives: As a result of this lesson plan, students will...

- Research and understand the role reformers played in the early Women's Rights Movement
- Think about how different media platforms can be used to convey ideas
- Identify personal connections to the fight for equality and equity

Grade Level: Middle School

Duration: 60 minutes

Description: Students will research women's rights and reform advocates from the nineteenth century. Students will choose one activist and act as their social media manager. Students will create a social media plan for the platform of their choice and highlight their reformers story.

Tags: Women's Rights Movement, Seneca Falls New York, 1848 Seneca Falls Convention, Declaration of Sentiments

Standards:

Common Core

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11-12.2

Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.7

Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

New York State Social Studies Framework

7.7 REFORM MOVEMENTS: Social, political, and economic inequalities sparked various reform movements and resistance efforts. Influenced by the Second Great Awakening, New York State played a key role in major reform efforts.

- 7.7c Women joined the movements for abolition and temperance and organized to advocate for women's property rights, fair wages, education, and political equality
 - Students will examine the efforts of women to acquire more rights. These women include Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Matilda Joselyn Gage, and Susan B. Anthony.
 - Students will explain the significance of the Seneca Falls Convention and the Declaration of Sentiments.

Thinking Skills: Applying, Analyzing, Creating, Evaluating

Background Information for Teacher:

- "Learn About the Park:" <https://www.nps.gov/wori/learn/index.htm>
- "A Great Inheritance: Abolitionist Practices in the Women's Rights Movement:" <https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/a-great-inheritance-abolitionist-practices-in-the-women-s-rights-movement.htm>
- "How Native American Women Inspired the Women's Rights Movement": <https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/how-native-american-women-inspired-the-women-s-rights-movement.htm>

About Women's Rights National Historical Park

In 1848 five women organized the First Woman's Rights Convention and wrote the Declaration of Sentiments, stating that "all men and women are created equal." Women's Rights National Historical Park commemorates the convention and preserves the sites associated with the convention and its organizers, including the Wesleyan Chapel, the Stanton House, the M'Clintock House, and the Hunt House. The park's visitor center offers an orientation film and exhibits. Tours of the houses are offered seasonally.

Be a Women's Rights Influencer

Activists in the 1800s used newspapers and public speaking events to share their ideas. What would it be like if they had today's social media on their side?

In this activity, you'll be the media manager for one of the nineteenth-century activists listed below. Use the links to learn more about them and their story.

Then think about how you'd share their message—videos, blogs, photos—and why.

Step One: Learn about these reformers.

Pick a reformer whose story you would like to tell as a media manager. Review the following National Park Service's website resource to learn more about your reformer.

Name	About
Amelia Bloomer	Amelia Bloomer edited the first newspaper for women, <i>The Lily</i> , and became well-known for dress reform (a movement to change the restrictive clothing that women wore)
Frederick Douglass	Frederick Douglass was a renowned writer, public speaker, and international activist in the nineteenth century. Formerly enslaved, he was an abolitionist and a supporter of women's rights. He attended the 1848 Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls.
Mary Ann M'Clintock	Mary Ann M'Clintock and her husband were Quakers and committed abolitionists. They owned a store where they refused to sell products made from enslaved labor. She also helped organize the 1848 Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls.
Lucretia Mott	Lucretia Coffin Mott dedicated her life to the goal of human equality. Her Quaker faith inspired her activism in abolition and Women's Rights. She was a well-known public speaker and an organizer of the 1848 Women's Rights Convention.
Elizabeth Cady Stanton	Elizabeth Cady Stanton was an activist interested in women's rights--- everything from suffrage to property laws to divorce.

Sojourner Truth	Born into slavery in New York state in 1797, Isabella Baumfree, who later changed her name to Sojourner Truth, became an itinerant preacher and one of the most powerful advocates for human rights in the nineteenth century.
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Step Two: Think about what platform works best for this reformer

- What different platforms have you heard of?
- How are media platforms used differently?
- What tools was your reformer using to communicate in the 1800s and what platform fits a similar purpose today?
- Who needs to know about this person and their story?
- What images would you use to share their ideas?

Step Three: Create the campaign

- What issues are most important to your reformer?
- When and where did this person participate in the struggle for Women's Rights?
- What other causes were important to them?

Reformer Name	
What platform do you think this reformer should use? Why?	
Important issues for this reformer	
When and where did this person participate in women's rights? (events they attended, publications they wrote for)	

What message do you want to communicate with this reformer's social media?	
What visuals will you use and why?	

Reflection

What makes this person's hard work and dedication worth sharing?

Do you want to see how the National Park Service tells these stories? **Use the following hashtags to connect your story with others:**

#WomensRightsNPS

#WomensRightsNHP