

# WASHINGTON DC STATEHOOD

research PBL

Explore this constitutional issue first-hand as your students **take on the role of advisors** to the President.

Students **research & write thesis-driven essays** recommending whether to admit Washington DC as a new state or maintain its current district status.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

Background Information Readings

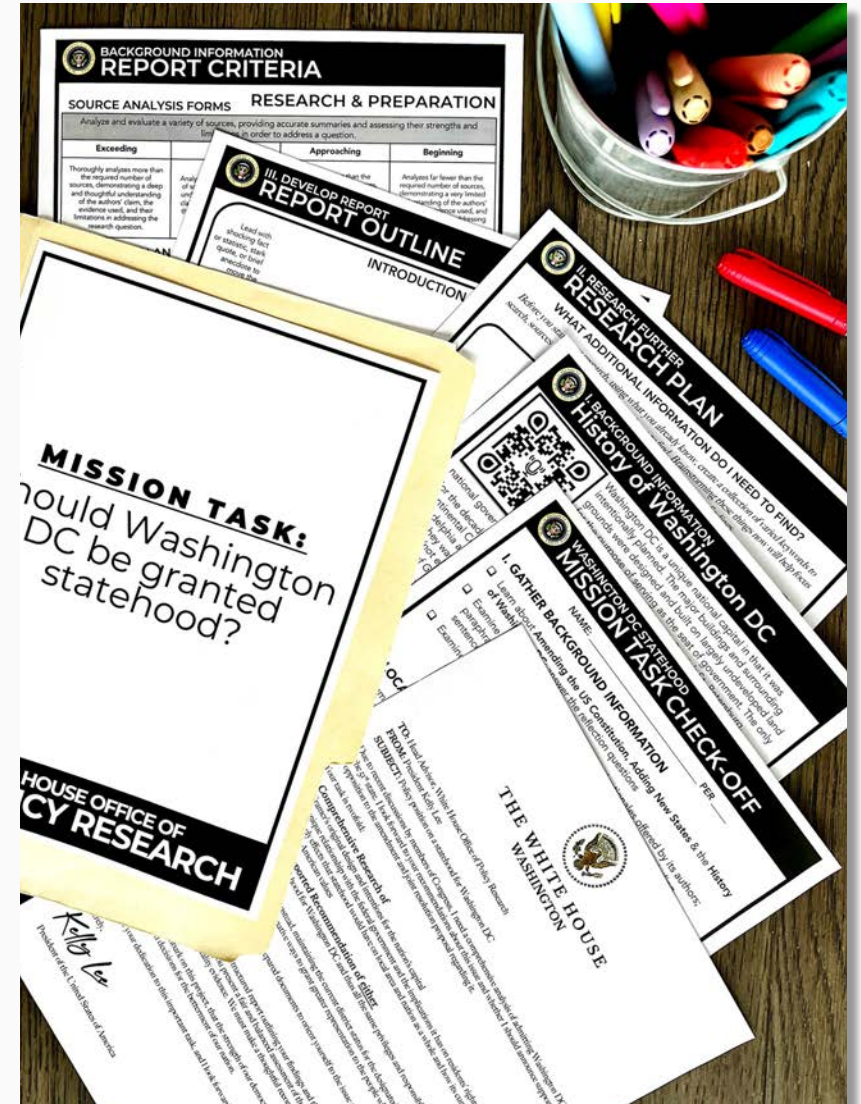
Constitution & Federalist Paper Excerpts

Project Check-Off, Research, & Planning Forms

Student-Friendly Rubrics & Self-Assessment

How-To Skill Reference Sheets

Supports & Scaffolds Throughout



# SUPPORT ALL *students*

## Executive Function

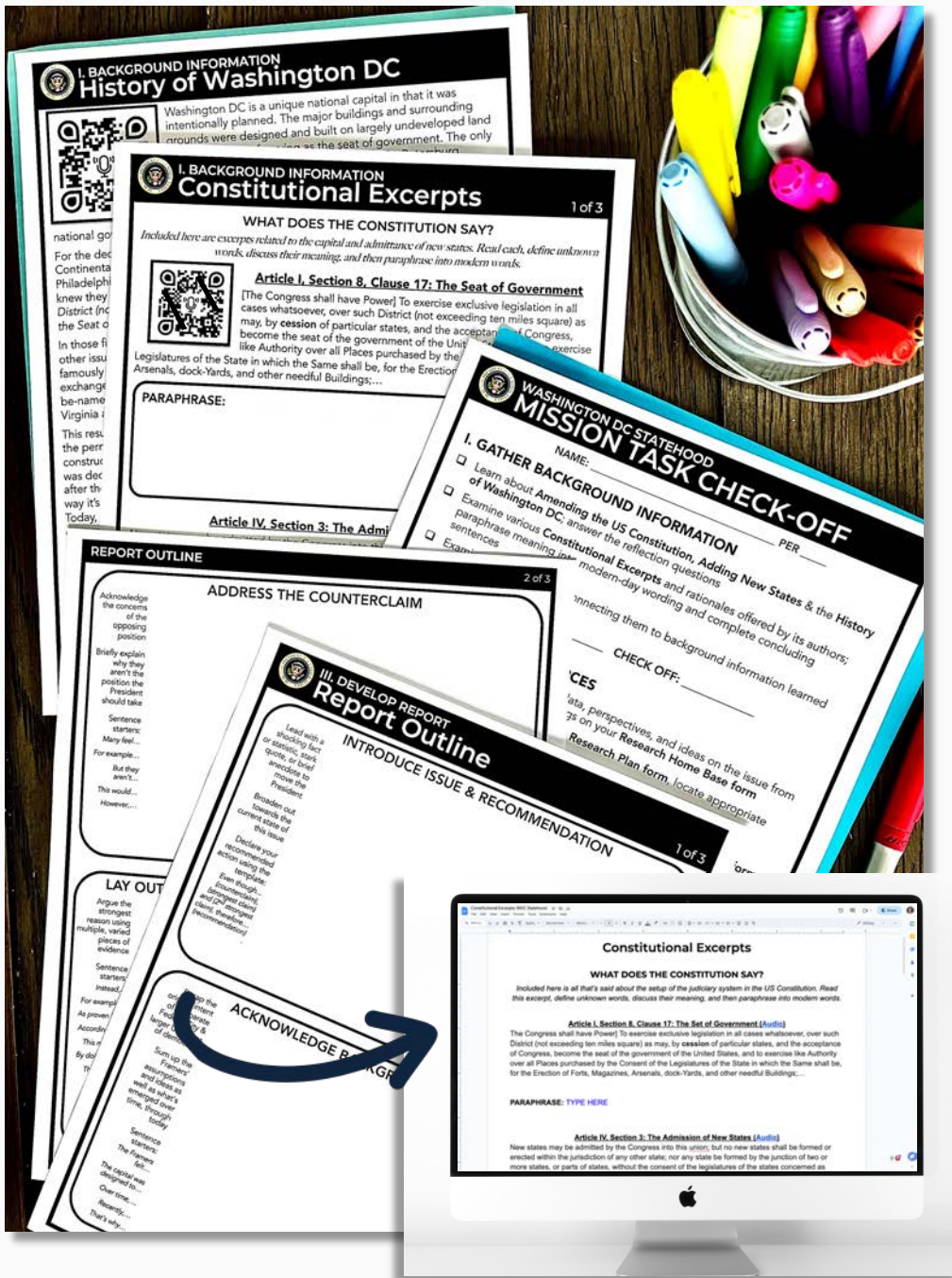
- ✓ Step-by-by check-off project sheet
- ✓ Easy-to-follow research & outlining graphic organizers

## Struggling, ELL, or Low Vision Readers

- ✓ Audio recording of all reading passages
- ✓ Editable version to further adjust reading level, translate languages, or support low-vision students

## Options to Level Up or Down

- ✓ Additional outside sources linked
- ✓ Materials built to allow you to adjust research and essay requirements at the student level
- ✓ Skill reference handouts offer self-taught or direct instruction on necessary skills



# I. GATHER BACKGROUND

*info*

No clue what the issue on this is? No problem!

**Detailed yet succinct background info** is provided to set both you and your students up to dive into this issue.

## Reading Passages

- ✓ Amending the Constitution, Adding New States, History of Washington DC, Constitutional & Federalist Papers Excerpts
- ✓ With processing questions and audio recording

## Starter Sources

- ✓ Collection of maps, survey data, and graphics
- ✓ List of a wide variety of reputable outside sources

**BUILT TO BE COLLABORATIVE  
OR INDIVIDUAL**



# II. RESEARCH

*further*

Help students find and evaluate **high-quality sources** like a pro!

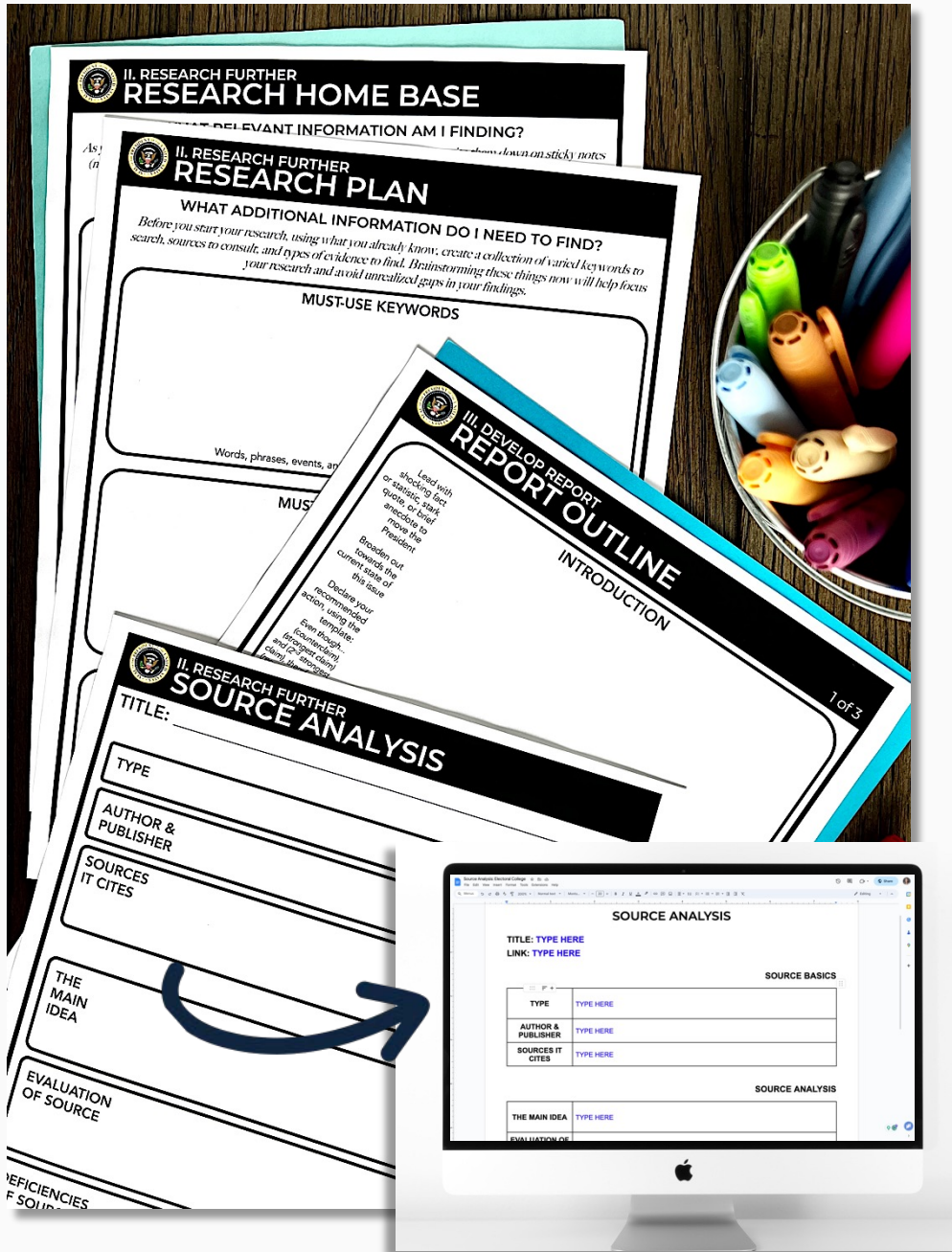
## Research Organizers

- ✓ Pre-research brainstorm organizer of keywords, sources, and evidence to search for
- ✓ Note-taking organizer of facts, stats, quotes, and ideas gathered

## Source Analysis Forms

- ✓ Step-by-step organizer to identify, summarize, and evaluate each source

**MATERIALS COME IN PRINT  
PDF & EDITABLE GOOGLE DOC**



# III. WRITE THESIS-DRIVEN

*essay*

**Confidently teach** argumentative, evidence-supported writing with all these included materials and supports!

## Outline Form

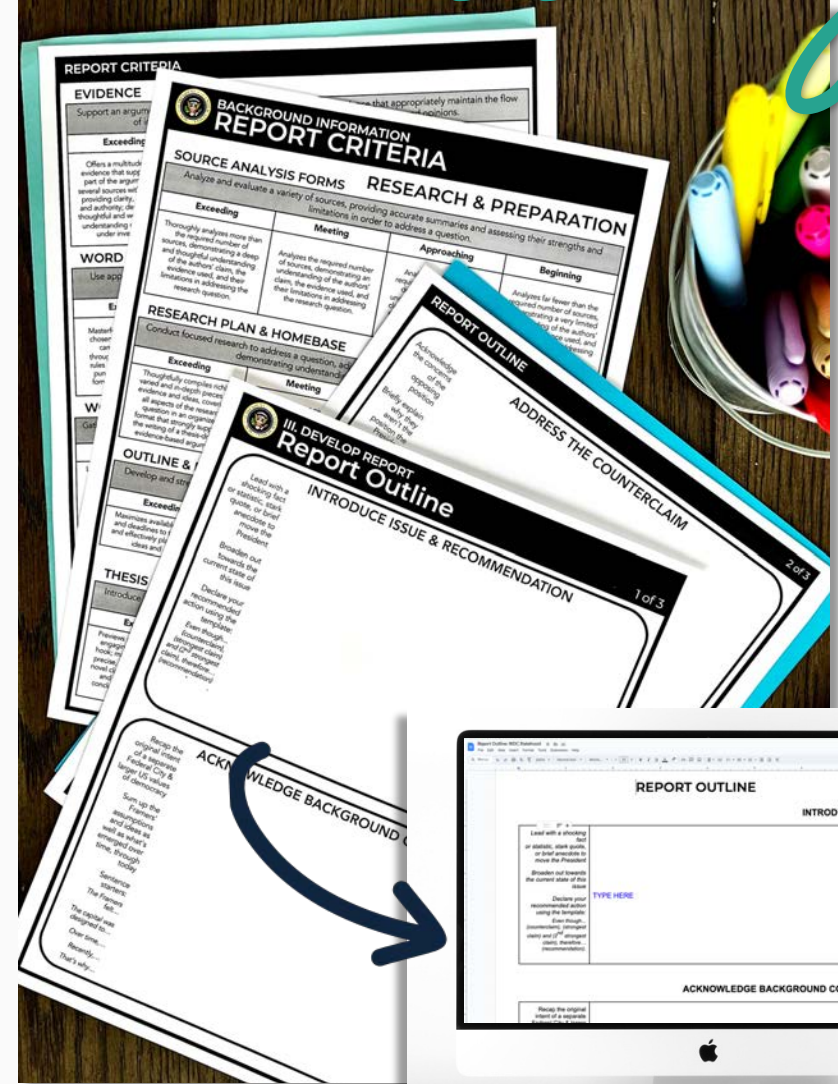
- ✓ Organizer to help students plan their essays
- ✓ Includes sentence starters for each section

## Rubrics & Self-Assessment

- ✓ Standards-based rubrics for seven distinct research and writing skills
- ✓ Reflection questions to elicit self-assessment

## Skill Reference Handouts

- ✓ How-to sheets for everything from analyzing sources to constructing a thesis, including evidence, and citing sources (10 total included!)



# HOW-TO SKILL sheets

Support at every step with these **self-contained mini-lessons** and examples for all the required skills!

## INCLUDES

Annotating Any Text

Source Analysis

Finding Appropriate Sources

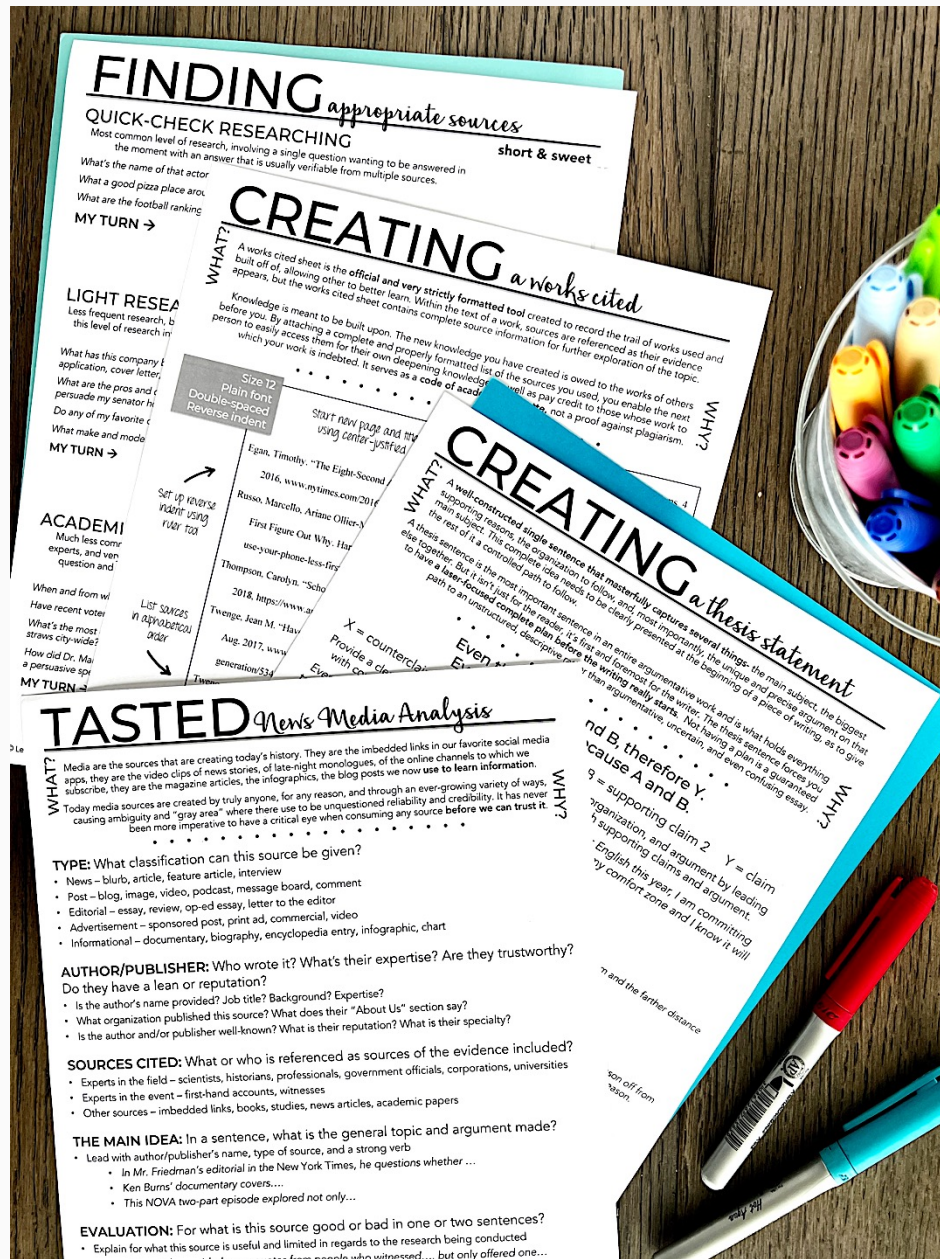
Creating a Works Cited

Annotating a Citation

Deciding a Precise Position

Creating a Thesis Statement

Including Evidence



# FREQUENTLY ASKED *questions*

## Will this work for middle school?

This is designed for and written at a **high school level**. If your students are advanced and you are willing to edit the requirements, it may work, but I don't recommend it. I use these materials with my mixed-ability on-level 12<sup>th</sup> grade Civics class.

## Can I use this in a homeschooling setting?

**Definitely!** Concise-yet-thorough **background readings** are included, and additional "starter" sources are linked—helping **you** understand the issue before teaching it. And the **step-by-step research and writing forms** as well as several **how-to skill sheets** guide your student(s) through these tough-but-essential social studies skills.

## Is this editable?

**Yes!** All student materials come with a digital Google file version that is editable for the exclusive purpose for you to customize it to meet your students needs.

## Will this work for my <insert unique setting here> classroom?

The preview and product description are **extremely detailed**—be sure to take a close look. Also know that all student materials comes with an editable, digital version. If you still have questions, feel free to **leave a Q&A!**

## What standards does this address?

**Several!** Standards from various states that this kit supports are listed in the product description.

The **project rubrics** explicitly score for the skills of source analysis and evaluation, conducting thorough research, organizing ideas, developing a claim and supporting it, using specific and varied pieces of evidence, addressing a counterclaim, using proper grammar and punctuation, and developing a works cited.