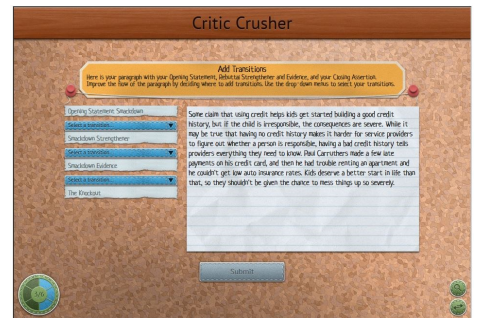


# DRAFTING BOARD

a product guide for teachers

Drafting Board is an interactive, online essay builder that helps you guide students through the process of producing a clear and polished argumentative essay. Drafting Board is not a game. It is a multi-day tool that is meant to be used with teacher supervision. With proper facilitation, students learn to connect claims, evidence, and reasoning to ultimately produce a structured and effective argument—all using topics that engage students' interest while connecting to core social studies content.



## Drafting Board Features

- Blended learning model combines technology with teacher intervention
- Aligned to the Common Core Standards for ELA in History/Social Studies, as well as state social studies standards
- Independent evaluation points to an increase in student writing scores after Drafting Board intervention
- Reporting lets you track class-level and individual student progress

## USING DRAFTING BOARD SUCCESSFULLY

### Methods of Use

Drafting Board requires 3 to 4 class periods to complete, and can be used by students individually or by the class as a whole. Some teachers find that projecting Drafting Board and working through the module together with the class is a helpful exercise when students are just starting to learn about argumentative writing. Students can also be paired together to work on a Drafting Board essay.



### Facilitation Required!

Drafting Board is a teaching tool, not an independent game. That means it works best when the teacher is available to actively facilitate the process and answer students' questions. iCivics offers Drafting Board supplements that teachers can use to help students get the most out of Drafting Board. These include materials students can use while they work through Drafting Board, as well as pre- and post-Drafting Board activities.

Facilitation, as well as direct classroom instruction to troubleshoot student problems, can make the difference between a successful or less-than-effective Drafting Board experience.



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## PRODUCT GUIDE: DRAFTING BOARD

### How to Use Drafting Board

As a teacher, you can work through Drafting Board yourself by logging into the iCivics website and clicking the "Preview" button next to any of the Drafting Board modules. This would also work if you are projecting Drafting Board to use with the whole class.

To use Drafting Board with a class of individual students, you will need to create the class in the My iCivics section of your account, then click the "Assign" button for the module you want students to complete. You'll be able to track students' progress and stats from your My iCivics account, as well as view and print students' final essays.

### Support Materials

The individual resource page for each Drafting Board module contains a resource PDF that includes the following support materials:

- A step-by-step teaching guide
- Two printable anticipation activity options
- A pre-written set of guided questions to help you steer struggling students in the right direction
- A printable version of all pieces of evidence in the module
- A progress packet to help students keep track as they work through Drafting Board
- A peer editing guide for students

### Drafting Board Modules

Our Drafting Board topics are designed to complement the iCivics curricular units. There are currently six topics, but more are on the way!

<b>Student Expression</b>	Does the Constitution guarantee students the right to wear whatever clothing they want to school?
<b>Community Service</b>	Should schools require mandatory community services for graduation?
<b>Interest Groups</b>	Does the influence of interest groups harm or help our political system?
<b>Electoral College</b>	Should the U.S. president be elected by the Electoral College or the national popular vote?
<b>Kids and Credit</b>	Should young adults under the age of 18 be given access to credit cards?
<b>Military Intervention</b>	Should the international community send military forces to stop a potential genocide?

