From Monuments to Memorable Learning Moments

with the National Mall Gateway

October 21, 2026



NATIONAL MALL GATEWAY

presented by

TRUST FOR THE NATIONAL MALL

Housekeeping Tips



Close other apps to improve your internet connection (email, Word, internet browser tabs, etc.).



Use the Q&A box to submit questions for the presenters. (Chat is open for comments, but Q&A is best for questions.)



The webinar is being recorded — you'll receive the link after the session.



Turn on captions: click the "CC/Live Transcript" button at the bottom of your screen.

Need help? Post in the chat, and our team will assist.

Meet Your Presenters



Dr. Melaney Sanchez

School Librarian
Mount Harmony Elementary



Bobby Koeth III

Senior Product Manager for the
Trust for the National Mall

POLL: Getting to Know You

What grade band do you teach?

Have you ever been to the National Mall?

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What is the National Mall Gateway?

A free, first-of-its-kind digital and onsite civic learning platform connecting students, educators, families, and visitors to the history and democratic ideals of the National Mall.

Created in partnership between the Trust for the National Mall and the National Park Service

gateway.nationalmall.org



Why We Built It

- Brings "America's Front Yard" beyond its physical borders, a true equalizer that puts the Mall within reach of any classroom, regardless of geography or budget
- Launched September 17, 2025, on Constitution Day, and has already reached more than 12,000 users
- A living history classroom: free and 100% web-based, so cost and distance are never a barrier
- Virtual tours, digital maps, and educational activities bring the nation's history into any classroom, grade band, or subject



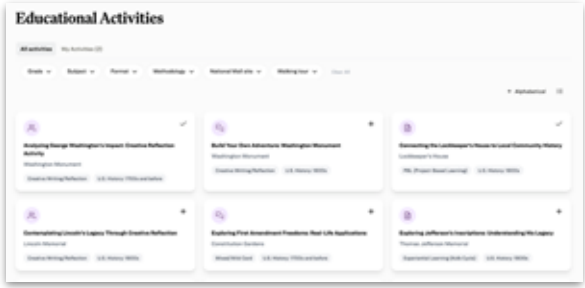
Gateway Features



Other Resources

Interested in learning more? The following links will provide you with additional context and information:

National Park Service: Abraham Lincoln Memorial
National Park Service: Ford's Theatre
National Park Service: Lincoln Memorial Undercroft
Trust for the National Mall: Previewing the New Lincoln Memorial Undercroft



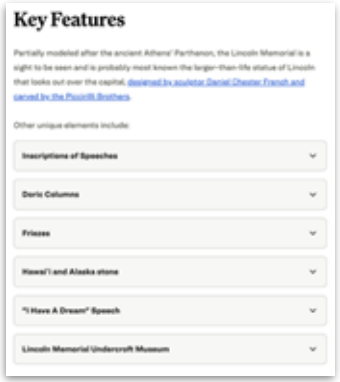
Click one of the 18 site cards on the home page



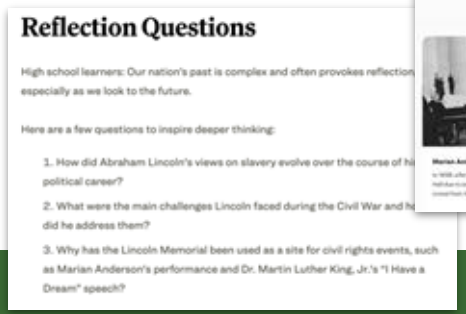
Read the history timeline



Check out the key resources & virtual tours



Explore the reflection questions



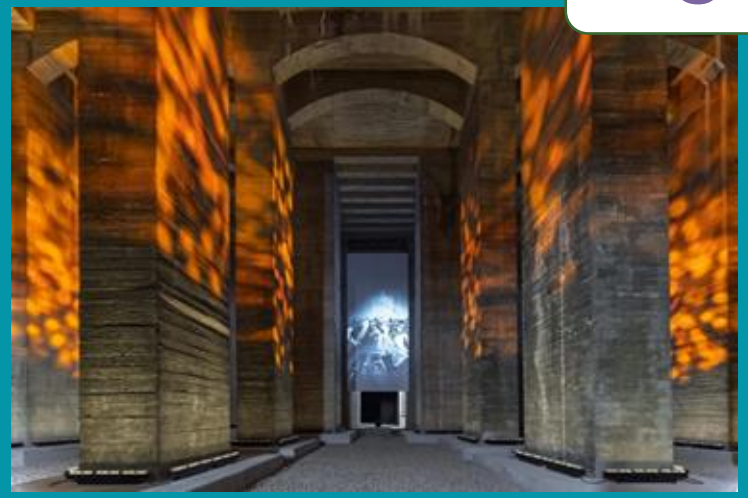
Dig into the educational activities & Mall Moments



Bring America's Front Yard into Your Classroom

Free for educators, students, parents … and everyone!

gateway.nationalmall.org



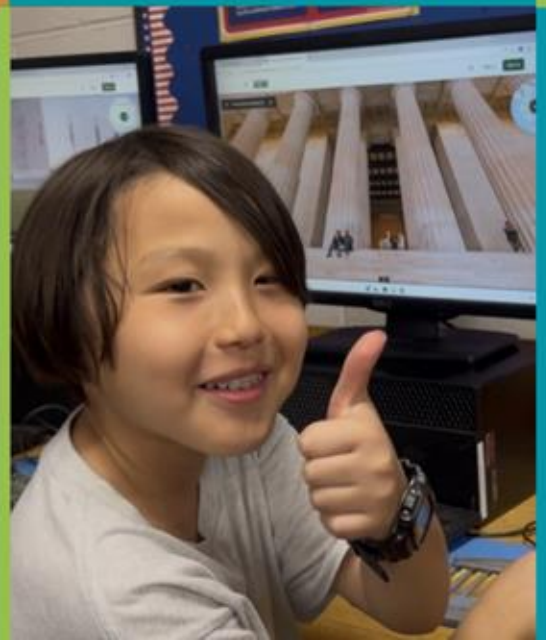








Analyzing George Washington's Impact
Creative Reflection Activity





Mount Harmony Elementary





Calvert County, Maryland
645 students, Pre-K — 5th grade

2023–2024 "National Mall Night"
Intro to the National Mall, students became published authors

2024–2025 "National Mall Night"
Study of women in American History, designed monuments to women

2025–2026 "Liberty & Legacy Night"
Celebrating America's 250th Study of 3 Branches of Government
& the Declaration of Independence

2026–2027 "Living the Legacy Night"
Women such as Marian Anderson, Maya Lin & Eleanor Roosevelt



Field Trips | 25 to Date, 3 to Go!

Before the Gateway

- Books
- YouTube
- Learning platforms
- Apps not designed for education

With the Gateway in 2025

- Current information
- Vetted materials
- Interactive
- Student choice
- Educator focused
- Cross-curricular resources



Tour the Gateway & See the Features in Action!



Thomas Jefferson Memorial



Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial



Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial

Which Memorial would you like to tour?

Free, High-Quality Educational Resources

- Access free teaching materials
- Save planning time
- Use trusted historical content
- Adapt materials for classroom use



Accessible for EVERY classroom

- Explore monuments and memorials virtually
- Make distant places accessible
- Prepare students for field trips
- Extend learning after a visit
- Explore even when travel isn't possible



Mall Moments | Lesser-Known Stories From Our Nation's Past



Marian Anderson

In 1939, after not being allowed to sing in Constitution Hall due to segregation, contralto Anderson sang to a crowd from the Lincoln Memorial steps.



The AIDS Memorial Quilt

The largest community arts project in history, the iconic quilt was first displayed on the Mall in 1987 during the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay...



Cherry Tree Rebellion

In 1938, furious Washingtonians chained themselves to cherry trees to stop the Jefferson Memorial—sparking the "Cherry Tree Rebellion."



Piccirilli Brothers: The Story behind the Statue

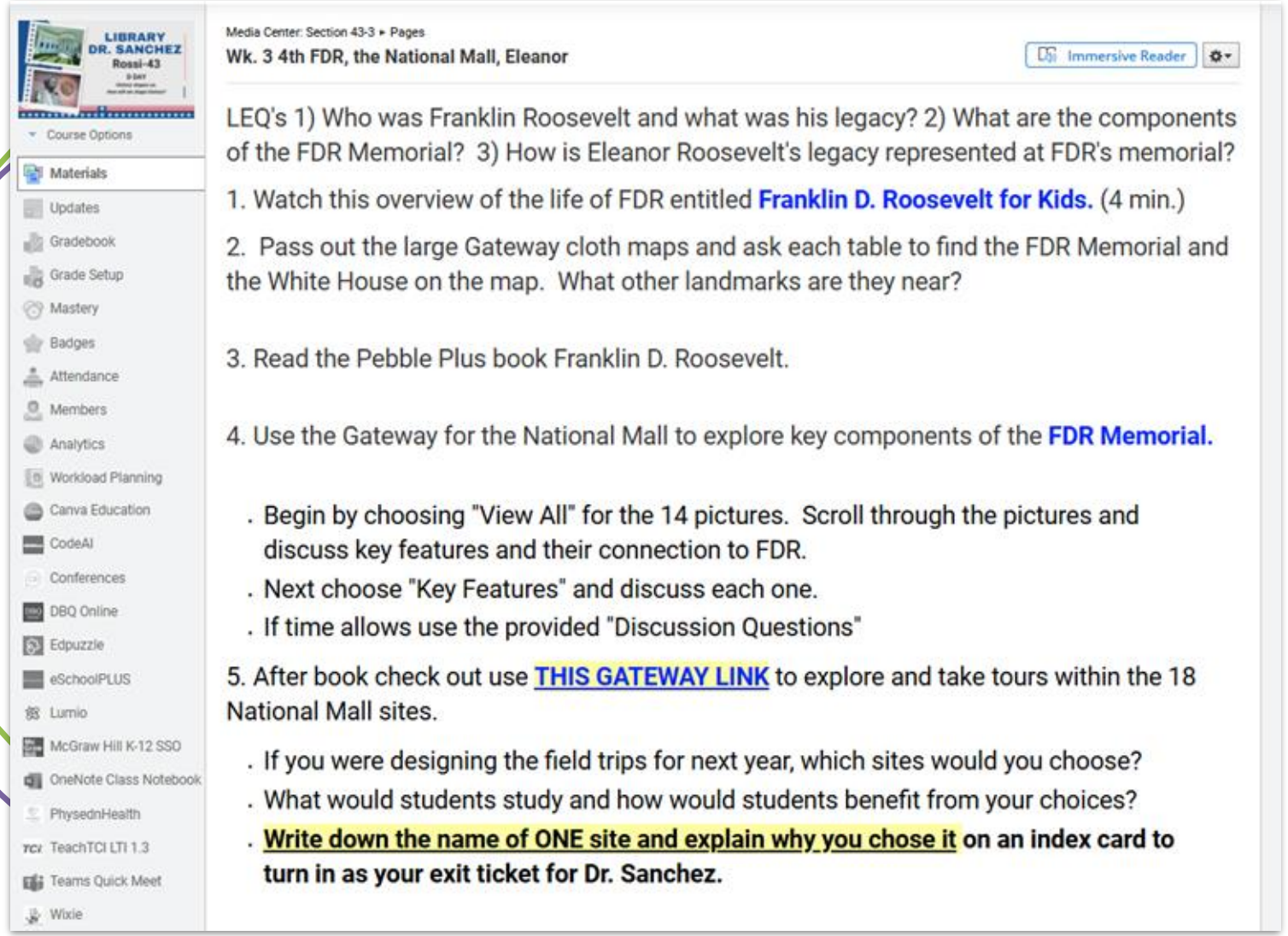
Big monuments take big talent – meet the Piccirilli Brothers, the master stone carvers behind the Lincoln Memorial statue.

Strengthen History and Civics Instruction

- Connect the past to the present
- Make democracy tangible
- Explore multiple perspectives
- Promote informed citizenship—my students know that they are “history shapers”
- Support America250 learning



4th Grade Lesson Using the Gateway



3rd Grade Lesson



Media Center: Section 33-2 ▸ Pages

Wk. 7, 3rd: Review for DC field trip WW2, Womens Monument, Vietnam

Immersive Reader

LEQ's: 1) How will the Womens Monument change the landscape of the National Mall?

1. Let's start by reviewing some key facts for our upcoming field trip.

A. How did Rosie the Riveter contribute to the war effort during WWII?

B. What are the three parts of the Vietnam War Memorial and what does each represent? Which one did Maya Lin design?

2. Revisit the mission of the Womens Suffrage National Monument by watching **this video** to prepare for your field trip because we will be visiting the future site of the monument. What new information did you learn?

3. Use **this link** to visit the website and review Why We're Building a Monument, Location and the Timeline.

4. Go to Step 5 "Design the Monument" and choose Monumental Ideas. Choose "See How This Works" and review the **"Monumental Ideas Explainer Video."**

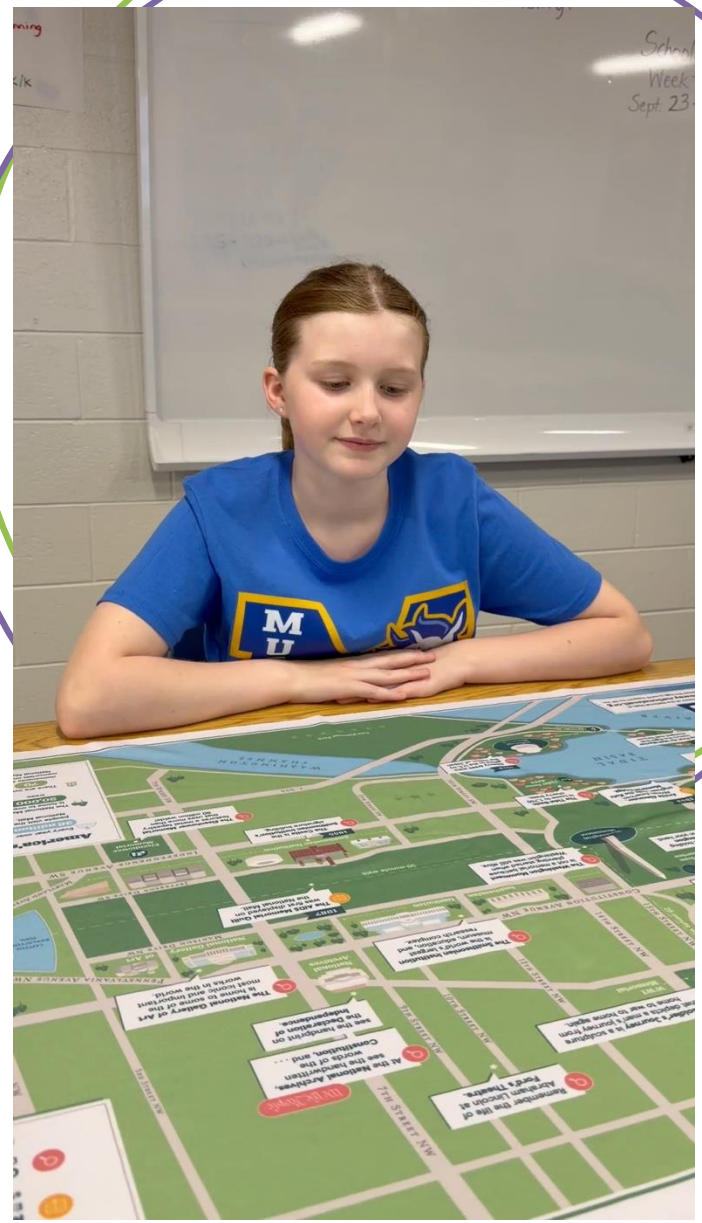
5. After book check out use the Gateway to explore the monuments we will visit. After you open the link scroll down to open the virtual tour.

A. **World War II**

B. **Vietnam**

Inspire Student Inquiry, Critical Thinking & Enthusiasm

- Encourage students to ask questions
- Develop research skills
- Analyze primary and secondary sources
- Support project-based learning
- Promote meaningful discussion
- Become experts on the National Mall







POLL: Which Gateway feature are you most excited to explore?

- Mall Moments
- Virtual Tours
- Educational Activities
- Reflection Questions
- Digital Map

NATIONAL MALL GATEWAY

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Your Classroom's Front-Row Seat to the History, Monuments, and Stories That Made Us

Sign up for your FREE educator account and start exploring!

gateway.nationalmall.org



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Create a Free Account & Claim Your Swag Bag

- A **cloth map** to hang on the wall, so students can see just how much history is packed into the Mall.
- **Sticker sheets** perfect for icebreakers and student rewards.
- **Baseball cards** with stunning photos and fast facts, great for bell ringers and conversation starters.
- Paper maps, magnets & more!

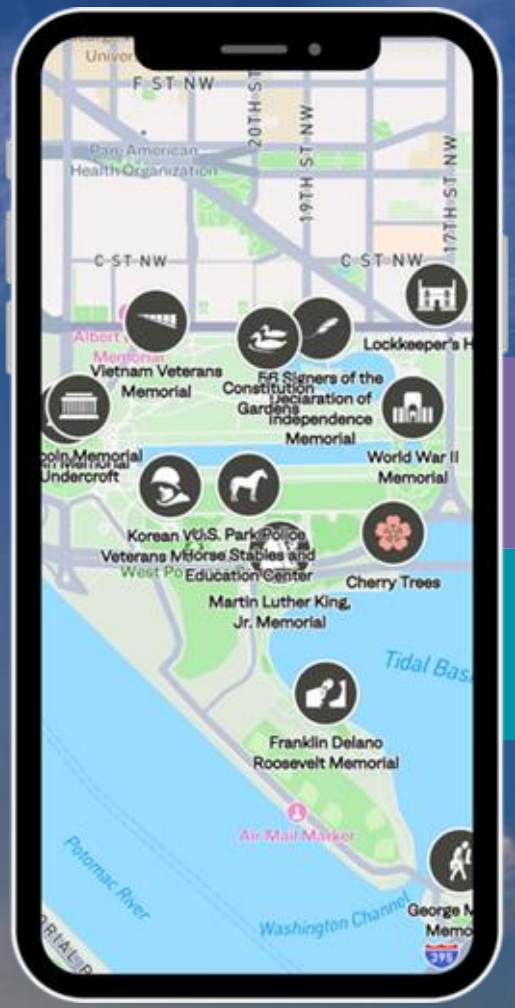


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Questions?


F ST NW
C ST NW
C ST NW
Vietnam Veterans Memorial
Lockkeeper's H
Declaration of Independence Memorial
World War II Memorial
Undercroft
Korean War Veterans Memorial
Cherry Trees
Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial
Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
Air Mail Marker
Potomac River
Washington Channel

Upcoming Virtual Classrooms Hosted by the National Park Service

Halloween History and Haunts on the National Mall

Thursday, October 29, 11:00 a.m.–11:45 a.m. ET



From Rosie the Riveter to National Remembrance: Teaching America's World War II Story

Thursday, November 5, 6:30 p.m.–7:15 p.m. ET

