



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF
LEARNING SERVICES

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Subject: Message #143: Teaching Hard History
Date: March 29, 2018
To: ccss@list.state.ar.us
From: Arkansas Department of Education Curriculum and Instruction Unit

Dear Arkansas Educators,

Teaching Tolerance, a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center, has a new initiative called *Teaching Hard History: American Slavery*; a year-long multi-faceted investigation into what students know, what teachers teach, what textbooks cover, and what state standards demand has led to new resources for educators. The report identifies 10 Key Concepts and key problems, how the issue was investigated, and why we need to make changes.

Please check out the Teaching Tolerance (www.teachingtolerance.org) resources available at www.tolerance.org/hardhistory for use in your classes. These instructional resources include a Framework for Teaching American Slavery (this framework aligns with our African American History course), student texts (primary sources appropriate for grade bands 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12), Inquiries, podcasts, and a student quiz.

Please share this information with others that might be interested. Thank you for serving the students of Arkansas.

Arkansas Department of Education
Learning Services Division
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