

TECHBOOK

by
Topic

A silhouette of a person standing on a rocky desert ridge, holding a camera up to their eye as if taking a photo. The person is wearing a backpack. In the background, the Great Pyramids of Giza are visible under a dramatic, golden-hued sky at sunset or sunrise.

LITERACY

Discovery Education Social Studies Techbook develops and strengthens students' literacy skills, builds their content knowledge, and makes the teacher's role in meeting the needs of diverse learners easier through access to robust resources and lessons that use research-based instruction.

TECHBOOK by Topic

Provides a Wealth of Diverse Informational Texts

Informational text is an essential element of today's literacy classroom. As reading and writing skills accelerate from grade to grade, students are required to analyze and gather evidence from increasingly complex text-based and visual sources of information.

Social Studies Techbook provides a variety of multilevel instructional texts used to expand vocabulary and build knowledge:

- **Read-aloud feature** allows students to hear text orally.
- **A library of different resources** allows teachers to differentiate text for diverse learners.
- **Tasks** can be created for students who require additional context to integrate information.
- **Search features** can find texts at different lexiles or reading levels to support students in reading at their instructional level.
- **Hundreds of primary sources per unit.**

Strengthens Reading Comprehension and the Writing Process

Predicting, summarizing, determining what is important in text, monitoring, and clarifying... these are all comprehension strategies that good

readers use whether they are reading print or digital text.

The power of digital, however, is that there are tools and multiple pathways to deepen comprehension available for all types of learners.

Social Studies Techbook provides an extensive collection of tools that support this and engage students in the use, practice, and development of disciplinary literacy skills specific to social studies.

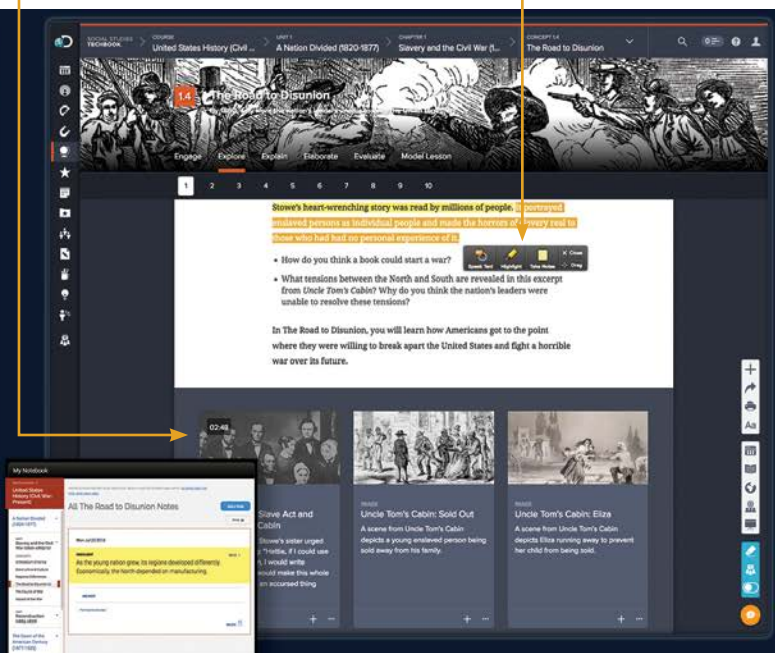
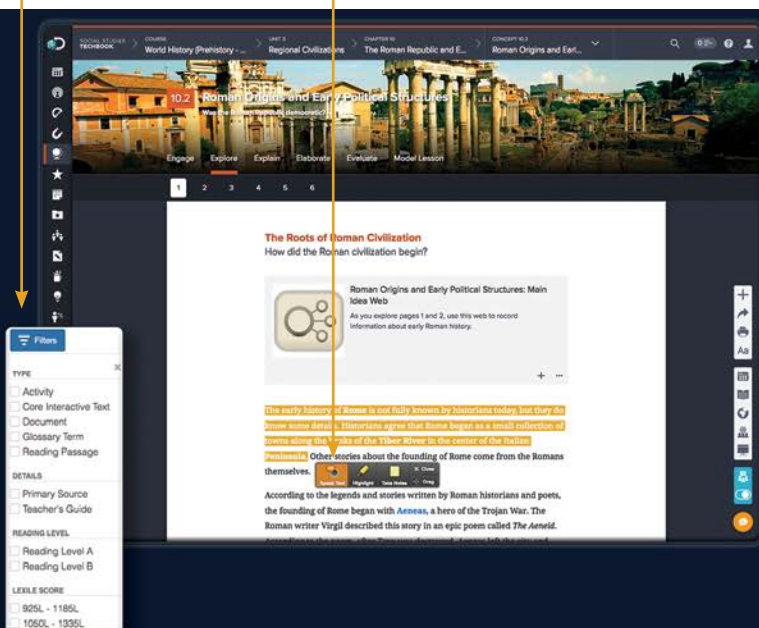
- **Note-taking and highlighting features** support comprehension strategies like "talk to the text" through text annotation and close reading.

- **Graphically engaging visual designs, images, and animations** naturally draw students into reading the text and support visualization as a comprehension strategy.

- **Videos and multimedia** support, complement, and enrich textual understanding and serve as background knowledge builders prior to reading the text.

Builds and Develops Academic Language

Academic success in content areas depends on understanding not just the definition of vocabulary words, but also the significance of the vocabulary in context. Digital provides opportunities to represent information easily so that there are multiple language alternatives, multiple options for both vocabulary or





syntax, and most importantly, alternatives to text such as the use of images, videos, and audio, all of which have a role in strengthening vocabulary acquisition.

- **Multiple language options** benefit students learning a second language.
- **Hearing text read aloud** can increase vocabulary development and support struggling readers, particularly when used in a repeated reading context.
- **The Reference Library** supports the acquisition of domain-specific vocabulary words.

Supports Argumentative Writing

Argumentative writing calls for evidence from a variety of sources, which often requires students to read across several texts, including primary sources. The “Explain” portion of the 5E model serves as the catalyst for the integration of the writing process into all social studies concepts.

- **Writing Prompt Builder** can be used by teachers to extend these explanations into evidence-based argument pieces as well as informative, explanatory, or narrative pieces.
- **The 5E model** provides students with a framework for students to ask meaningful questions, analyze source materials to address these questions, and create final products to make and defend arguments in writing.

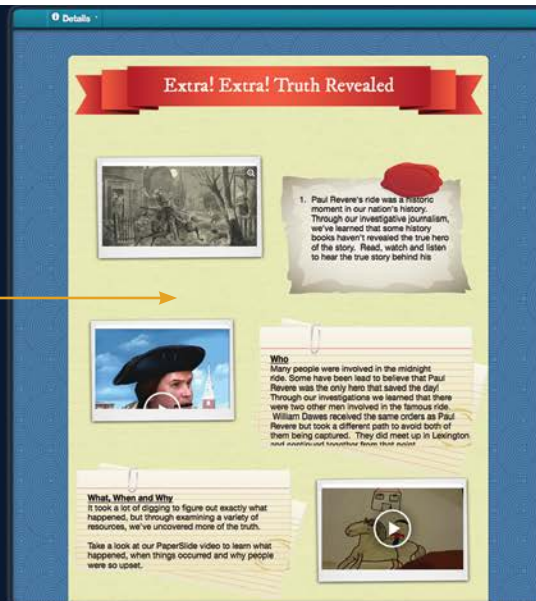
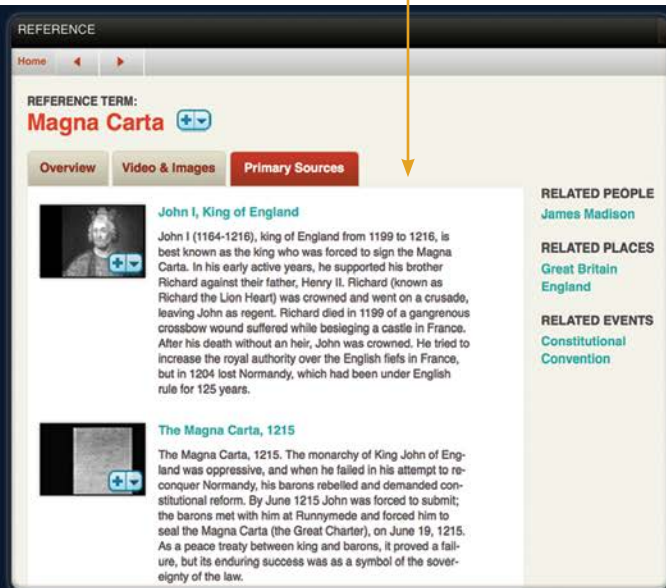
- **The Explore More Resources tab, Virtual Field Trips, and weekly Global Wrap** support standards that require students to conduct short research projects through the gathering and integration of relevant information.

Integrates Speaking and Listening Standards Meaningfully and Authentically

Often overlooked, speaking and listening also comprise an integral part of the literacy framework. College and career readiness standards require students to acquire knowledge across multiple disciplines through speaking and listening. The speaking and listening standards expect students to participate in “rich, structured conversations” in which they are building on the ideas of others and speaking in complete sentences.

Social Studies Techbook allows students to develop a range of broadly useful oral communication and interpersonal skills by working together, expressing and listening carefully to the ideas of others, and integrating information.

- **The Explain feature** enables students to use multiple modalities as evidence.
- **The Board Builder feature** provide opportunities for students to demonstrate learning through multiple modalities.



Discovery Education

SOCIAL STUDIES TECHBOOK > COURSE > United States History (Preh... > UNIT 1 > Building a Nation (Prehisto... > CHAPTER 3 > Revolutionary America > CONCEPT 3.3 > The Declaration of Inde...

3.3 **The Declaration of Independence Explored**
How does the Declaration of Independence reflect the colonists' ideas about government?

Engage Explore Explain Elaborate Evaluate Model Lesson

1 2 3 4 5

We Hold These Truths
What does the Declaration of Independence say?

Graphic Organizer: The Declaration of Independence
As you read the text and view the media, record the main ideas and key phrases from each section of the Declaration of Independence.

The **Declaration of Independence** is organized into four parts: the introduction, the preamble, the list of grievances, and the resolution.

- **Introduction:** The introduction of the Declaration of Independence announces the document's purpose. It states that it will explain the reasons why the American colonies decided to separate from Great Britain.
- **Preamble:** The preamble sets forth the colonists' beliefs about the purpose of government and outlines the ideals of the new nation.

es: This section explains in gene...
are justified in declaring indepe...
s with a list of specific complaints against the king of

final section of the Declaration formally dissolves the
Britain and the colonies and declares independence for the
e United States of America. Finally, the signers pledge
other.

REFERENCE

Home > < >

CONCEPT REFERENCE:
The Declaration of Independence Explored

View Reference Terms By Concept:

PEOPLE

Abigail Adams, Baron de Montesquieu, Benjamin Franklin, Francis Bacon, George Mason, John Adams, John Hancock, John Jay

LANGUAGE AND READING LEVEL
English Reading Level A ✓
English Reading Level B
Spanish

Speak Text, Highlight, Take Notes, Close

Key Literacy Features

- Read-Aloud Text
- Note-Taking & Highlighting
- Language & Reading Levels
- Interactive Tools
- Video & Multimedia
- Reference Library
- Notebook Feature

"A lot of struggling readers have a lack of background knowledge, which determines your level of text for reading. Consider the challenge of reading text when you don't have background knowledge of the content. You might be able to read the words, but you can't build a mental model of what the author is talking about. By providing resources that build background knowledge, technology helps students develop powerful mental models for reading."

[Leveraging Technology for Learning, Ted Hasselbring, 2016]