



Educator's Toolkit

FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHERS

The Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA) has several resources for educators and programs across all grade levels. The Educator's Toolkit highlights the resources TYLA has created for educators. Several of these resources meet Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards, include viewing guides and/or curriculum materials, and address important social issues that affect students of all grades. Each of these resources can be found at www.tyla.org.

Teach Safe. Learn Safe. Be Safe.



[Teach Safe. Learn Safe. Be Safe.](http://www.tyla.org) is a dynamic multimedia website that provides an overview of legal issues and laws affecting education. The website presents information in an understandable, easy to use format across five broad categories: (1) teachers, (2) parents, (3) administration, (4) special education, and (5) social media. This resource addresses issues related to privacy, employment matters, discipline, bullying, special education processes, sexual misconduct, and other pertinent topics. *Teach Safe. Learn Safe. Be Safe.* is available at <http://teachsafe.tyla.org>.

Educating Educators



[Educating Educators](http://www.tyla.org) is a guide designed to educate teachers, administrators, and paraprofessionals about their rights, responsibilities, and legal obligations. This guide aids educators in fostering appropriate relationships with students, parents, and administrators and provides guidance concerning reporting obligations for child abuse and human trafficking. The guide also addresses the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), educators' rights and responsibilities under FERPA, and common legal pitfalls educators face. Printed copies of the guide are available from TYLA upon request, and a PDF version is available at tyla.org/resource/educating-educators.

Proud To Be An American



Targeted TEKS: 7.10(A); 8.15(C), 8.22(A)

Through animated and documentary-style videos, [Proud to Be an American](#) guides students through an exploration of the basic rights of American citizens. For elementary-aged students, there are two animated modules that discuss the rights and responsibilities of American citizens and the origins of the United States. For middle school and high school students, there are six modules that discuss the rights and responsibilities of American citizens through the stories of immigrants, scholars, a voting rights expert, and various elected officials. Also available are worksheets, games, essay prompts, and debate topics that allow students to explore these issues further. *Proud to Be an American* is available at tyla.org/resource/proud-to-be-an-american.

We The Jury



Targeted TEKS: 8.19(C)

[We the Jury](#) begins with a short video that educates students about the importance of juries in our democratic society, and concludes with an interactive exercise where students simulate jury deliberations in an effort to reach a verdict. Students will learn what it means to be a juror, how jurors are selected, and the role jurors play in a trial. The curriculum guide includes handouts, quizzes, and answer keys.

End Bullying Now



Targeted TEKS: TAC Sections 115.22, 115.23 – Health Education

[End Bullying Now](#) is a comprehensive anti-bullying website that features stories about individuals who have endured bullying, including actors, athletes, notable business people, and students. *End Bullying Now* is geared toward kids, teens, and adults, provides resources for identifying and addressing bullying, and educates bullied individuals on their legal rights. This resource is available at www.biggerthanbullies.com.

The Choice



Targeted TEKS: TAC § 115.22(b), 23(b) Health Education

[The Choice](#) is designed to help middle school and high school students make smart decisions. Through videos and written curriculum, *The Choice* engages students in conversations about the decisions individuals make and the consequences, both good and bad, associated with those decisions.