



February 2025 Newsletter

PLS Newsletter at a Glance

New Lessons:

- *What is Democracy?* - Middle School & High School
- *Lewis Hine & Child Labor* - Middle School & High School

Lessons for:

Black History, Valentine's Day, President's Day, Social Justice

New Search Capacities:

Popularity and Boolean Functions

Online CMD Course: Starting March 4

For School Librarians: ML3 Newsletter

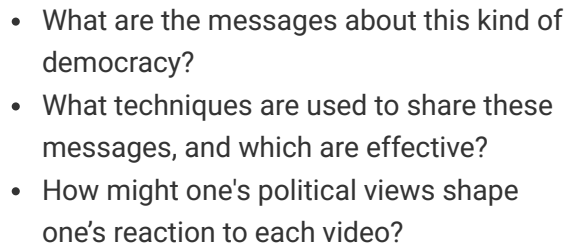
Appreciations:

Michelle Ciulla Lipkin - NAMLE and Sylvia Norton - AASL

New Media Decoding Lessons:

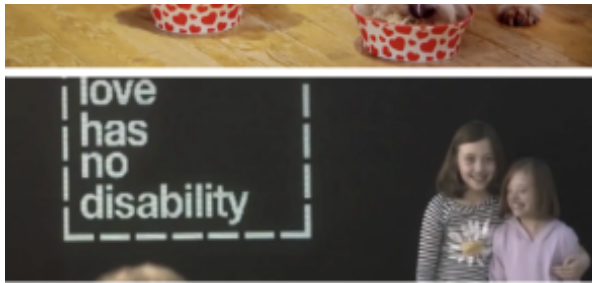
What is Democracy?

Middle and High School



watched this ad? What made you feel that way?

- Why might the advertisers want you to feel that way?
- Who is the target audience?
- What is an ad? What is a Public Service Announcement? How are they different?



Other **SEL** (Social Emotional Learning) lessons for [Elementary](#), [Middle](#) and [High School](#)

Lessons for [Black History Month](#)

– filter by subject, level, duration, media type, etc.

Some lessons for **ELEMENTARY**:

- [Harriet Tubman Seizes Freedom](#) - Book Excerpts
- [Dr. King: Reading the Messages](#) - Sculptures

Some lessons for **MIDDLE SCHOOL**:

- [Aretha Franklin: Amazing Grace](#) - Film Clips
- [Picturing the Underground Railroad](#) - Book Covers
- [Black Identity](#) - songs

Some lessons for **HIGH SCHOOL**:

- [Covering Black Lives Matter](#) - Newspapers
- [Carry Me to Freedom](#) - Songs
- [Andrew Jackson and Harriet Tubman](#) - \$20 bill



Providing materials, training, and support to help teachers prepare students for life in today's media-saturated world.

Media Construction of Presidential Campaigns:

A Document-Based History Kit, 3rd Edition

Lessons for Presidents Day

We have 150+ lessons related to [Presidents](#) and presidential campaigns, from 1800-2024. Search by level, name, year, keyword, etc.

See our kit [Media Construction of Presidential Campaigns](#) with over 100 media decoding lessons.



Lessons about **Social Justice**

We have over 75 lessons related to [Justice](#):

19 Elementary Lessons including:

- [First Contact: Who's Telling the Story?](#)
- [Unearthing Stereotypes](#)
- [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#)

41 Middle School Lessons including:

- [America: Through Music Videos](#)
- [Environmental Justice: For Whom, How, Why?](#)
- [Fighting Back Against Religious Intolerance](#)

61 High School Lessons including:

- [Sports and Protest: Media & Civil Discourse](#)
- [Black Lives Matter and Climate Change](#)
- [Bob Dylan: Storytelling for Social Justice](#)



See our [Media Construction of Social Justice](#) kit with 24 image, video and audio lessons on *Abolition, Suffrage, Labor, Civil Rights, Gay Liberation, Feminism, Immigration and Prisons.*

New **Search** Functions

for Project Look Sharp's 800+ free lessons:

- **Popularity** – you can now search our lessons by the most downloaded in the last 6 months OR by *Newest*.
- **Boolean Search:** Put phrases in "quotes"

use + to require additional terms

use - to omit additional terms

use | for an OR search.

For example:

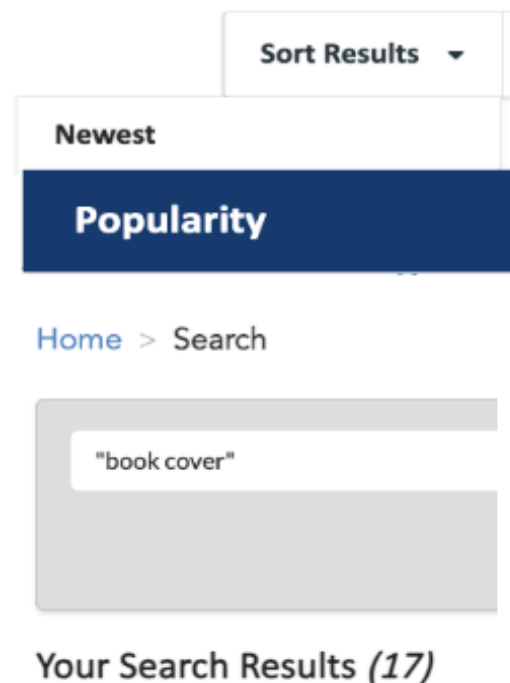
Keyword *Literature* results in 72 lessons

Literature<> | Book = 94 (can have either)

Literature + Book = 67 (must have both)

Literature<> - Book = 17 (can not have *Book*)

"Book Cover" = 17 (includes phrase *Book Cover*)





Empowering All Students Through Media Decoding

15-hour Online Course for Educators

Project Look Sharp's popular online course trains K-12 school librarians and teachers in [Constructivist Media Decoding](#) (CMD) – a student-centered, question-based methodology for integrating media literacy across the curricula. For \$190, this dynamic PD features live sessions with the creators of CMD, interactive self-paced modules, and personalized coaching to help participants design and teach their own media decoding activities.

Email looksharp@ithaca.edu for more information and to register!

For School Librarians:

Sign up for the **ML3 Newsletter** [Librarians as Leaders for Media Literacy](#) with updates about PD offerings, resources, and support for school librarians wanting to integrate [Constructivist Media Decoding](#) with their students and colleagues.



Deep Appreciations

and congratulations to two beloved advisors to Project Look Sharp and ML3 – both of whom will be moving on from their positions this spring. **Michelle Ciulla Lipkin**, the Executive Director of [NAMLE](#) (the National Association for Media Literacy Education), and **Sylvia Norton**, the Executive Director of [AASL](#) (the American Association of School Librarians), have provided invaluable wisdom over the years that has enabled us to better address our mission of educating all students for critical thinking in a democracy.



Michelle Ciulla Lipkin



Sylvia Norton



