

Teach It

Teach It is a *ConnecticutHistory.org* initiative that will assist the state's educators in teaching American history through a Connecticut lens. Working within the parameters of the new social studies frameworks, we will coordinate and help create teaching materials that link national historic events to the local events that took place right here in our state. The materials will provide teachers with resources relevant to the places, people, and events in Connecticut history that both reflected and shaped larger national events. These "teaching moments" will include primary and secondary source materials vetted and approved by practicing educators and will live on *ConnecticutHistory.org* for easy access. The materials will include interactive exercises, such as online quizzes, to help teach students historical methods (e.g. the difference between primary and secondary sources), and utilize inquiry-based approaches to history to help students better understand Connecticut history and the important role it plays in their everyday lives.

The *ConnecticutHistory.org* team, working with educators, will re-invent *Teach It* from its previous iterations and make it more organic, approachable, and inclusive. This will be accomplished through a bottom-up approach to gathering previously utilized materials, opportunistically publishing new content, assigning content to qualified writers, and upcycling already published *ConnecticutHistory.org* entries.

Our goal is to publish the first phase of *Teach It* in January 2015 on *ConnecticutHistory.org* and continue to grow and maintain it through the rest of the calendar year (and possibly beyond as need arises). The possibilities of this initiative are endless and our ultimate objective is to have materials covering every time period in American history while providing interesting materials that appeal to a diverse group of educators and students.