Arkansas Women’s Suffrage

Civics/ U.S. Government Activities

19th Amendment

**Arkansas Social Studies Frameworks:**

PD.4.C.3 Examine the amendments to the U.S. Constitution in order to determine how the roles of citizens and non-citizens changed over time.

**Guiding question:**

What factors led to the ratification of the 19th Amendment in Arkansas and the United States?

**Activities:**

* Read “Women’s Suffrage in Arkansas: A Brief History.” Make a list of 10 events and/or people who led to the adoption of the 19th Amendment in Arkansas.
* Have students work in pairs to create a t-chart about women’s rights/responsibilities before and after the passage of the 19th Amendment in the areas of voting, work, medical care, education, serving on juries, and military service. ([This essay](http://www.nwhp.org/resources/womens-rights-movement/history-of-the-womens-rights-movement/) is a good start for research on this topic).
  + Discuss the question, “After the ratification of the 19th Amendment, were women equal citizens to men? Why or why not?”
* Read the article [“Fashion Forward”](http://ualrexhibits.org/suffrage/fashion-forward/) and compare the clothing in the article to that worn by the women in the [media gallery](http://ualrexhibits.org/suffrage/suffragists/).
  + How did women’s fashions reflect changes in women’s civic, social and economic roles?
* Use a jigsaw approach to organize student learning about the biographies of Arkansas women suffragists. Expert groups will use secondary sources (biographies on this website) and primary sources ([documents](http://ualrexhibits.org/suffrage/documents/) on this website and the [Library of Congress](http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/women-rights/procedure.html), [Chronicling America newspaper database](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov)) to research and summarize information about Arkansans and women in the national suffrage movement (Carrie Chapman Catt, Alice Paul).

Then, split students into mixed groups with 1-2 experts on each individual, and have them teach each other about the strategies, setbacks and successes of these women.

* + How did their participation lead to the ratification of the 19th Amendment?