



*Engaging Students in Contemporary Issues and Civic Action Through Art*

## Who We Are as a Country

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Through this lesson, students will meet the following learning objectives:

- Think critically about issues of diversity, tolerance, pluralism, and democratic decision-making
- Examine how youth can voice their opinions and affect decision-making in the U.S. democratic system
- Use art to express their opinions and perspectives on pluralism and democracy
- Explore opportunities to be more active participants in a pluralistic democracy

youTHink lessons are aligned with California's Social Studies, Language Arts and Visual Arts standards.



Art Project Base: Map Cutout

This lesson is recommended for students in grades 3 to 12.



Sample Student Art Project

### THE YOUTHINK APPROACH

youTHink applies a critical pedagogy model that allows students to name, reflect and act on the major social issues confronting them.

**Discussion:** Students share their perspectives on pluralism and democracy by interpreting select works of social commentary art.

**Art project:** Students create their own art project expressing their opinions on pluralism and democracy.

**Presentation:** Students teach each other about their perspectives by presenting their art projects to the rest of the class.