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K-12 Resources to Honor the Life and Legacy of Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter

Purpose

In reflecting on the passing of President Jimmy Carter, Vermont schools have an opportunity to honor his enduring legacy of public service, commitment to peace, and dedication to improving the lives of others. Students can learn about Carter's contributions as both a president and a humanitarian, emphasizing his efforts in areas such as global health, human rights, and his work with Habitat for Humanity. Taking the time to recognize and honor President Carter can also serve as a valuable lesson on the importance of integrity, leadership, and compassion in shaping the world, and foster discussions about how individuals can contribute to their communities and society.

The Agency of Education (AOE) has collated resources which can help students reflect on Jimmy Carter's presidency and the lasting impact he had, both in the U.S. and globally. Resources include media and video clips from [The Carter Center](#), a curated list from [PBS Learning Media](#), with connected discussion questions, lesson plans, and/or links to supporting videos, and AOE-curated, age-appropriate discussion questions.

The Carter Center

[The Carter Center](#) "is guided by a fundamental commitment to human rights and the alleviation of human suffering. It seeks to prevent and resolve conflicts, enhance freedom and democracy, and improve health". The website provides access to the [In His Own Words](#) video, [multimedia](#) resources, and a [biography](#) of the former President.

PBS Learning Media

PBS Learning Media has curated the following resources to share with educators who would like to recognize former President Jimmy Carter:

- [Remembering Former President Jimmy Carter](#) (Grades 6-12) (New)
- [Jimmy Carter - Campaigning on Honesty](#) (Grades 9-12)
- [Jimmy Carter's Boyhood Home](#) (Grades K-5)
- [Jimmy Carter | Virtual Field Trip](#) (Grades 3-12)
- [Fun Facts About Jimmy Carter](#) (Grades 3-12)
- [Jimmy Carter | 60-Second Presidents](#) (Grades 3-12)
- [Jimmy Carter - "The Little Baby Snoogle-Fleejer"](#) (Grades 3-5)



AOE-Curated Follow-Up Questions

Age-appropriate questions to share with students regarding the passing of U.S. President Jimmy Carter; teachers can adjust the level of complexity based on the students' grade and understanding:

Elementary K-5

- Who was Jimmy Carter and why was he important?
- Can you name something that Jimmy Carter did during his time as President?
- What do you think it means when a leader like Jimmy Carter passes away?
- What did Jimmy Carter do after he was president to help people around the world?
- What do you think people remember most about Jimmy Carter?

All levels - What are some values that you think Jimmy Carter demonstrated throughout his life?

Middle School 6-8

- What were some of the major accomplishments of Jimmy Carter during his presidency?
- Why do you think that Jimmy Carter is often praised for his work with Habitat for Humanity?
- How did Jimmy Carter's approach to foreign policy differ from other presidents? Or, what was Jimmy Carter's approach to foreign policy?
- What challenges did Jimmy Carter face during his presidency, and how did he handle them?
- Why is it important to learn about the lives of former presidents after they have passed away?
- How can we use what we have learned about Jimmy Carter in our own lives?

All levels - What are some values that you think Jimmy Carter demonstrated throughout his life?

High School 9-12

- How did Jimmy Carter's presidency reflect the political and social climate of the 1970s?
- In what ways did Jimmy Carter's work after his presidency impact global and human rights?
- What do you think was President Carter's biggest challenge during his presidency, and how did he address it?
- How did Jimmy Carter's commitment to human rights shape U.S. foreign policy during his presidency?
- What legacy do you think Jimmy Carter leaves behind, both as a president and a humanitarian?
- Has the way that Jimmy Carter has been remembered changed over time? Why may that have happened?