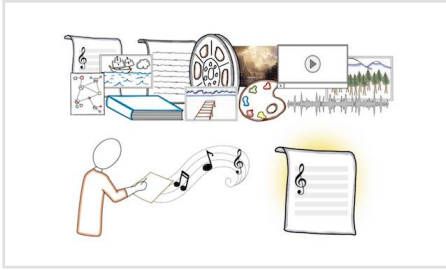


## Lesson Plan

This lesson plan is designed to help you teach using a Common Craft video. Use the information below to introduce the video and then follow the video with discussion questions and other resources.



[commoncraft.com/video/public-domain](https://commoncraft.com/video/public-domain)

**ISTE Standard:**

**Digital Citizen, Indicator 2c**

**ACRL Info Literacy Frame:**

**Information Has Value**

## Public Domain

Explained by Common Craft

It's easy to assume that creative works like photos, essays and recordings have an owner who controls them. But works in the public domain are not controlled or owned by anyone and are free to use. This video explains how works in the public domain can be used.

### Learning Outcomes

- Identify the types of works that are subject to copyright law
- Explain how copyright law gives artists and creators control over their works
- Define public domain and explain its purpose
- Describe three reasons why a work may be in the public domain
- Describe what you are allowed to do with works in the public domain and identify strategies for finding public domain resources

### Discussion Questions

#### Q #1

Do you agree that all copyrights should expire after a period of time so that a creator's work can be available for use by anyone without permission or payment to the creator's heirs? Explain your reasoning.

#### Q #2

What strategies do you use to locate works in the public domain?

### Knowledge Check Q&A

**Q**

What is the basic idea of copyright law?

**A**

The basic idea of copyright law is that the creator of a work owns the work and can use it to earn a living and control if and how it is used by others.

**Q**

What is public domain?

**A**

Public domain is the state of being available for use without payment or permission.

**Q**

True or False. A creator or organization may choose to contribute work to the public domain to encourage use by others.

**A**

True.

## Resources for Learning More

**Copyright.gov**  
“Frequently asked questions about copyright”

<https://www.copyright.gov/help/faq/>

**Stanford University Libraries**  
“Welcome to the public domain”

<https://fairuse.stanford.edu/overview/public-domain/welcome/>

**Teaching Copyright**  
“Public domain frequently asked questions”

<https://www.teachingcopyright.org/handout/public-domain-faq.html>

**Harvard Law School Library**  
Meg Kribble  
“Finding public domain and creative commons media” 7/2017

[http://guides.library.harvard.edu/Finding\\_Images](http://guides.library.harvard.edu/Finding_Images)

**UCLA Library**  
“Creative commons, open content, and public domain images”

<http://guides.library.ucla.edu/c.php?g=180361&p=1185834>