



Choosing a Worthy Woman for the \$10 Bill

How do you give kids the opportunity to share their opinions in a constructive way? When I taught, one of my favorite activities was asking students to give their views on current events. Our discussions touched on a variety of topics, from repairing potholes to presidential elections. When I asked for kids' opinions, they would become animated and enthusiastic as they shared their feelings. These discussions helped foster development of their critical thinking and persuasive speaking skills as they looked at different sides of the issues.

Americans currently have an opportunity to make their voices heard regarding a currency redesign. The U.S. Department of the Treasury is revamping the \$10 bill to include the portrait of a woman who was a champion for democracy. Secretary of the Treasury Jacob J. Lew would like public input on what qualities best represent democracy and which women in history displayed these qualities. The final choice will be made by the end of 2015, with the bill slated to be in circulation by the end of 2020, the 100th anniversary of the passage of women's right to vote. The only rules in the nomination process are that the woman must be deceased and must have made a significant contribution to our country's rights and freedoms. Roundtable discussions and town halls to receive input from the public are currently being conducted throughout the country. Additionally, the public can comment on the website: <https://thenew10.treasury.gov/>. They also can tweet their opinions using #TheNew10.

The currency redesign project is a great way to involve kids as researchers, learning facts and developing opinions on which woman to promote. Begin by reading a brief history of

the \$10 bill on the Treasury website. Note that Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the Treasury, has been portrayed on the bill since 1929. Changes have been made to the bill's features several times for security, most recently in 2006. Next, check out the currency redesign section on the site so kids can understand why the revamp of bills is necessary. This section introduces the security measures added to bills to prevent counterfeiting. Kids will enjoy looking at the watermarks, ribbons and symbols that enhance the bills. If they show a further interest in currency production, they can go to www.moneyfactory.gov to discover how currency is produced at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Once kids have a currency background, it's time for them to explore the lives of women who may be top candidates for the portrait honor. Start by discussing the term "champion for democracy." Ask what it means to be a champion, using sports analogies, such as team champions. One explanation would be that a champion is unbeaten, undefeated, or a winner. Now discuss the word democracy. If kids have trouble defining the word, ask them to look up the definition or synonyms for the word. They should find that a democracy is a government in which the people participate. Synonyms that kids should understand are freedom, equality, justice and fairness. So their task is to find the woman who best represents someone unbeaten in her quest for freedom or equality.

An easy way to begin exploring is to go to <https://pinterest.com/kansascityfed> and choose the "Woman on the \$10 Bill" board to see popular nominees. Each woman's pin leads to a website with her biography and notable accomplishments. Have them use page 32 to list

favorite nominees from the board. Tell them to read the biographies of their nominees and use the star-ranking system suggested on the page for each woman. Ask them to review their top candidates, thinking about their overall accomplishments. To make a final decision, kids may need to research further, using the additional website given on page 32. They could also survey family members and neighbors for opinions if needed. Once the final decision is made, it's time to make their opinion public by going to <https://www.kansascityfed.org/education/womanonten>. They should use the online process to complete the short survey and vote for their favorite. They can continue to check the website for updates on how the vote is trending.

If your family lives within the area of the Kansas City Fed's Kansas City or Denver Money Museum, consider visiting to cast your vote. You will be able to tour the museum and learn more about the Federal Reserve up close and personal.

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Financial Education Resources

The Kansas City Fed is committed to promoting economic and financial literacy and greater knowledge of the Fed's role by providing resources for teachers, students and the public. Visit our website at KansasCityFed.org for more information. The resources below are a few of many available on this subject.

FEDERAL RESERVE RESOURCES "American Currency Exhibit"

An online exhibit that explores how our country's history is closely tied with our currency. Kansas City and Denver Money Museum. For ages 6-Adult. <http://www.frbsf.org/education/teacher-resources/american-currency-exhibit>

"Coins and Currency"

A publication that shows the birth and early history of American currency and coin. For ages 6-Adult. <http://www.bostonfed.org/education/pubs/coincurr.pdf>

NON-FICTION BOOKS "If You Lived When Women Won Their Rights"

by Anne Kamma
This book tells the story of how women worked to get equal rights with men, ending with the 19th amendment to the Constitution that gave women the right to vote. For ages 7-10.

"Remember the Ladies: 100 Great American Women"

by Cheryl Harness
This book spans generations to provide an engaging look at 100 outstanding women who have helped shape our nation. For ages 8-12.

"Women of Courage"

by Margaret Truman
This book pays tribute to 12 remarkable women from the Revolutionary War to the present. For adults.



The New \$10 Bill: Which Woman Will Win?

Step 1: Use our Pinterest website at <https://pinterest.com/kansascityfed> and view the “Woman on the \$10 Bill” board to see the popular nominees for the new \$10 bill. Select four nominees from the board that you would like to read more about and list them below.

Step 2: Research each nominee using the biography linked to her pin. Rank each woman on her actions as a “champion of democracy” by awarding her one to four stars below. Survey family members or read more using the National Woman’s History Museum website <http://www.nwhm.org/education-resources/biography/biographies> to make a final decision from your top-ranked candidates.

Nominees

Circle the stars awarded

1) _____	★	★	★	★
2) _____	★	★	★	★
3) _____	★	★	★	★
4) _____	★	★	★	★

My winning woman is _____.

Step 3: Write a short paragraph giving reasons for choosing your winning woman.
