



## **Sixth Grade Civics Class Inquiry-Based Assessment Questions**

**Theme:** Foundations of Government

**Standards covered:** 6.9

In Article 8 of the Indiana Constitution guarantees the right to education for Hoosiers by saying “schools... shall be without charge, and equally open to all.” However, the U.S. Constitution does not offer the same guarantee. Should education be a fundamental right guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution?

- Is it appropriate that there are different rights in the Indiana Constitution compared to the U.S. Constitution?
- Should government (local, state, or national) have the responsibility to guarantee an equal education to all citizens? Why or why not?

### Sample Follow Up Questions

- Are state governments better suited to handle educational policy and funding issues compared to the national government? Why or why not?
- Should an Indiana student be able to “opt out” of their guaranteed right to education and drop out of school?
- The UN’s Universal Declaration of Human Rights declares that everyone has the right to education. Should that play a role in how we decide educational policy in America? Why or why not?
- Should there be a national Department of Education if education is mainly in the purview of the states? Why or why not?