FIREWORKS250: Introduction

Fostering Independence, Reflection, and Engagement through Wide-Reaching Outreach, Revolutionary Knowledge, and Student-Led Scholarship for America's 250th Anniversary



Spring 2026

FIREWORKS250 Description

- An initiative designed to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our nation!
- Three-year focus on civics AND integrating evidence-based literacy practices into 22 grade 5 civics lessons.
- Partnership between the Florida Center for Reading Research and the Institute for Governance and Civics at Florida State University.
- High-quality professional learning program for fifth grade teachers to increase historical content knowledge and enhance teaching strategies so that students master the civics standards and clarifications.
- Annual summer symposium for FIREWORKS250 participants (first 180 registrants).



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FIREWORKS250 "Chat" Framework

Each FIREWORKS250 chat has several parts:

- Deepen your knowledge independently using the lesson resources;
- Review the lesson plan and watch a webinar on applying the evidence-based lesson; and
- Try out a lesson component with students and reflect on the experience.



Spring 2026

Your FIREWORKS250 Chat Hosts

Dr. Kevin Smith

Dr. Laurie Lee

Florida Center for Reading Research

https://fcrr.org/projects/fireworks250

Happy 250th Birthday, America!



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