

It's Our BIRTHDAY!!!! 250 Years Old!!!

Resources and ideas to help your family learn more during this time of remembering our founding as a nation

Grab a cup of tea, and take a couple of hours to browse about on any of these terrific websites-- and get inspired with free resources and ideas for meaningful history learning.

Links to some great US history resources-- especially geared to this 250th celebration!

- [Prager U -- America at 250](#).... Lots of short lively videos-- and a family board game with lots of historical trivia questions! Also includes The \$1776 Family Civics Sweepstakes Challenge-- I just entered!
- <https://www.america250pa.org/> Learn about Pennsylvania *special events* within our state, highlighting the incredible role PA has played over our whole history.
- <https://america250.org/> Lots of ideas and resources-- and things to DO, including joining in the big VOLUNTEER DAY on May 16, 2026 in honor of this birthday!
- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/freedom250/> ... includes lots of short videos on the history of the American Revolution, developed by Hillsdale College (a very popular school with homeschoolers!
- [Factory Tours in Pennsylvania!](#) Great site with businesses in our state that still give educational tours of their facilities. Some are *historical*-- like coalmine tours-- and some are of current businesses still in operation.
- [Hillsdale College free on-line courses](#)-- with MANY related to US history.
- ["Pennsylvania 250: The Keystone of American History"](#) -- sharing special events at the historical museums within our state-- plan your visits now! Includes links to 'history trails' all across our state, [many podcasts produced for this year of celebration](#), and so much more.
- [Explore PA History](#) -- a wonderful resource to help you not only learn about many Pennsylvania historical events, from all time periods, but also where to *visit* to learn more! You can even learn the full story behind all the many 'historical markers' along Pennsylvania's roads!
- [Historic places in Pennsylvania](#): focuses on the history related to natural sites. Plan a summer camping trip!
- [Free Historic PA Landmarks, Towns, and Mansions](#)
- [Civil War Tails at the Homestead Diorama Museum in Gettysburg](#) -- this delightful museum was founded by twin sisters Rebekah and Ruth Brown-- who were PHAA graduates!
- [Museum of the American Revolution](#)-- located in Philadelphia!
- [National History Day](#): a contest program that encourages middle school through high school age students (homeschoolers VERY welcome!) to develop a unique research project related to a self-chosen topic related to a general theme for the year-- this year 2026, the theme is appropriately REVOLUTION, REACTION, and REFORM. Lots of great resources online to get you started!

- [The Bill of Rights Institute](#): this organization has a *huge* website, with free learning resources in US history and civics, along with a full range of student contests, and many primary documents right online. Lots of short videos-- including free video 'professional development' courses for teachers that some homeschoolers might want to try!.
- [Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History](#): extensive learning resources, student contests, primary documents, video presentations, and more.
- [Teaching American History](#)-- Ashland University in Ohio maintains a huge website of US History resources, with a special emphasis on helping guide teachers (including homeschooling parents!) to use *primary documents* well. While there are no 'special' materials I can see on their site related to this 250th anniversary, this is a fabulous free resource site.
- [Smithsonian Institute for America's 250th!](#) Get great ideas for stimulating learning about our nation's history-- and maybe plan a trip to Washington DC to visit some of the Smithsonian museums!
- [The US National Archives](#) -- link to the online exhibits on important documents and themes in our history. To celebrate this 250th birthday, [major documents are flying to various major cities](#) for special exhibits.
- [US Constitution Center in Philadelphia-- Celebrating 250!](#) A wealth of online resources, including short online courses, blog articles, lesson plans, student activities, role-playing history activities, and MORE! And this is a terrific Pennsylvania fieldtrip, too!
- [PBS films related to US History](#) -- includes [Ken Burns new documentary series The American Revolution](#)
- [Department of the Interior-- Freedom 250](#): Learn about historical preservation projects all across our nation...
- **You'll be able to find 100's of more helpful websites-- have fun EXPLORING what's available to help your family LEARN more!**