

## Thematic Focus

Each Thematic Focus provides links to lessons and materials organized around a central theme or topic. New themes are added weekly and many focus on seasonal or timely events.

Access Thematic Focus from anywhere on the site by clicking on Teacher Center in the navigation bar at the top of the screen. Next, click on Thematic Focus. In each Thematic Focus, you will find a wealth of topic-specific information including:

- **Resources**  
A discussion guide and lesson plans organized by grade levels
- **Media**  
A list of downloadable video segments
- **Activities**  
Problems, puzzles and worksheets
- **Events & Articles**  
Written material that support the theme

Click the "Thematic Focus Archive" link to view a complete list of thematic units organized by subject.



Resources | Media | Activities | Events & Articles

**Discussion Guide**  
From the wilds of Alaska to the mangroves of Florida, take a guided tour of four national parks.  
[Download Discussion Guide \(pdf format\)](#)

---


**Lesson Plan: Grade 3-5**  
Survey the topography and unique geologic features of the West by creating travel brochures for its national parks.  
[Download Discussion Guide \(pdf format\)](#)

---

**Lesson Plan: Grade 6-8**  
Visit the Colorado River's Glen Canyon Dam to investigate the helpful and harmful ecological effects of damming a river.  
[Download Discussion Guide \(MS Word format\)](#)

---

**Lesson Plan: Grade 6-12**  
Take a look at U.S. conservationists, including John Muir who was nicknamed "the father of our national parks."  
[Download Discussion Guide \(MS Word format\)](#)

 For a complete list of Thematic Foci, view the [Thematic Foci Archive](#).



**Integration Idea:**

Search *unitedstreaming's* vast image library for primary source materials to use in your instruction.