

# BE AN ACTIVIST!

Freedom of speech is one of our guaranteed freedoms in the Bill of Rights. Activism is being involved with changing an organization, a belief or the government to something you think is better. Sometimes activism is in the form of a protest (like you saw in front of the White House on the *We the People Constitution Tour*). Sometimes it is verbally sharing your thoughts and opinions, and other times, it is writing a letter to an official, sharing your experiences and/or concerns.

This activity asks you to write to the President of the United States and share an opinion or a concern you have as a young citizen of our country. You may praise a recent bill or law that was passed or share your unfavorable opinion about something you see happening in the country at the federal level that you do not like. Brainstorm with a friend, your teacher or classmates about an important topic! Mail your completed letter to:

The President of the United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Use the template below to help you write your letter. Be sure to check your spelling and grammar before sending your letter. Also, write in pen or type your letter. Always sign your name (in pen!).

LETTER TEMPLATE

[Your name]  
[Your school]  
[Your school's street address]  
Washington, DC [zip code]

[Date]

[President's Name], President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:  
I am an 8th grade student in the District of Columbia Public Schools at [your school's name]. As a young citizen of this country and of the District of Columbia, I wanted to share with you what I think about [state your thought/opinion/concern here].

[In this paragraph share why this is an important topic/concern/opinion to you. Give three reasons.]

[In this paragraph tell the President what you would like to see done about the issue or what you would like to continue to see happen and why.]

Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

[Sign your name]  
[Print your name]