

SESSION 2.1: GUIDE

Nebraska’s Capitol has been described as a “masterpiece”. The Nebraska statehouse is an artistic and architectural treasure that belongs to all Nebraskans. The Virtual Nebraska Capitol website is a way to bring the Nebraska Capitol into your classroom. It is important to help students understand what the purpose of the Capitol is to all Nebraskans.

This lesson is designed to be used as an introduction to the Virtual Nebraska Capitol website or could be done as a culminating activity after several of the other lesson have been taught. Students explore the program looking for art/descriptions and locations that are examples of each of the three functions (purposes) of the Nebraska Capitol. The chart below shows how the lessons are organized around the three functions.

Three Functions of Our Capitol

by Harris Payne, Roxanne Smith

What are the functions of the Nebraska State Capitol?

<p>A place that makes laws for the people in the state of Nebraska.</p>	<p>A place that tells the history of the state from the time of the dinosaur to the present.</p>	<p>A place that inspires the people in the state to be better citizens.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How a bill becomes a law in the Unicameral • Classroom Government 	<p>How have Nebraskans responded to historical events such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Hazards: The Blizzard of 1888 • The Homestead Act • The Gold Rush • The Cival War • Native Americans and Symbolism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Memorial Chamber: Public Service • The Memorial Chamber: Perils of Danger • How to Become Good Citizens • The Medal of Honor (Nebraska Recipients) • Collaborations: Working Together to Create Preserve and Restore