# White Cane Day Proclamation

White Cane Day Lesson Plan

Age: Highschool

## Objective:

Students will perform a google search to find whether or not their city has made a White Cane Day proclamation in the past. They will learn the significance in the use of “quotes” in searching for specific information. They will contact their local government to request a White Cane Day proclamation.

## Materials for lesson:

* Computer and/or tablet
* Internet access
* Internet browser
* Word processor
* Email
* Phone

## Lesson:

### Part 1.

One way we can get involved in activism for people who are blind and visually impaired is by making sure there is representation of people who are blind and visually impaired in our community.

Some cities, at the request of their citizens who are blind or visually impaired, will make proclamations for White Cane Day. A proclamation is an official announcement of something important, usually made by a governing body.

You can watch the Mayor of Cheyenne, Wyoming giving a proclamation for White Cane day at <https://youtu.be/5EjngOsDWJg>.

#### Has your city proclaimed White Cane Day before?

Does your City have a White Cane Day proclamation? We can try to find out by looking for this on a search engine.

##### Using Quotes in a search engine

When we search for things on a search engine, such as google.com, the search engine looks through websites to find the best match based on your search. This will typically show up at the top.

If we type Walnut Creek White Cane Day Proclamation, the search engine will look for content that contains those 6 words in any order.

When we are looking for something specific, we can use quotes to ensure that the search engine is looking for exact words in a specific order.

For example, I might type this in my search engine:

“Walnut Creek” “White Cane Day” Proclamation

This way I can ensure that the search will pull up things related to Walnut Creek and White Cane Day.

Unfortunately, when I searched for this, I could not find anything related to White Cane Day for Walnut Creek, so I am unsure if they have made a proclamation or not.

On the other hand, when I search for “San Francisco” “White Cane Day” Proclamation, the first result tells me that San Francisco mayor London Breed made a proclamation for White Cane Day on October 15th 2019.

##### Activity:

Search for “your city” “white cane day” proclamation in a search engine. Have they made a proclamation in the past?

### Part 2: requesting a proclamation

The National Federation of the Blind put together a template for government officials to proclaim White Cane Day. You can find it at the link below.

Call your local mayor's office to get information on how to request a proclamation.

Requesting a proclamation can take a few months, so request that a proclamation be made for the next time White Cane Day rolls around!

For more information, visit National Federation of the Blind’s web page <https://www.nfb.org/programs-services/meet-blind-month/white-cane-awareness-day-proclamation>.