



**We the People:
A Constitution Day Program
Pre- and Post-
Program Activities**





We the People: A Constitution Day Program

Pre-Program Activity

Sign the Declaration of Independence

Post-Program Activities

Road to the Constitution Timeline

Expand Your Vocabulary!

Constitution Word Search

Constitution Crossword Puzzle

Reference

Vocabulary List



Have your students sign the Declaration of Independence

just like the Founding Fathers!

Are you sure you want to sign the Declaration of Independence? Remember the King will see you as a traitor to the crown! Are you willing to sign? Discuss the courageous men that did sign.

Yes, I want to sign!

- Go to the National Archives Exhibit Website on the Charters of Freedom at: <http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/charters.html>
- Click Join the Signers of the Declaration.
- Click Sign the Declaration.
- Click the type of printer you have and it will load the appropriate version of the Declaration for you.
- The introduction will then scroll down the page or you can choose to skip the introduction.
- Select a Quill to choose your penmanship style: Colonist, American or Patriot.
- Type student's name in the box below.
- Click Submit.
- Click Print Color/Print Black and White on the lower left-hand corner of the page in order to get a full-size print of the signed Declaration.

The student's name will be displayed on the lower left-hand side of the signers.

Have each child roll their personally signed Declaration into a scroll and tie with red ribbon.
Have fun!!!

Road to the Constitution Timeline

Directions: Think about the documents below and where they belong on the timeline. Cut out the documents and glue them on the timeline.



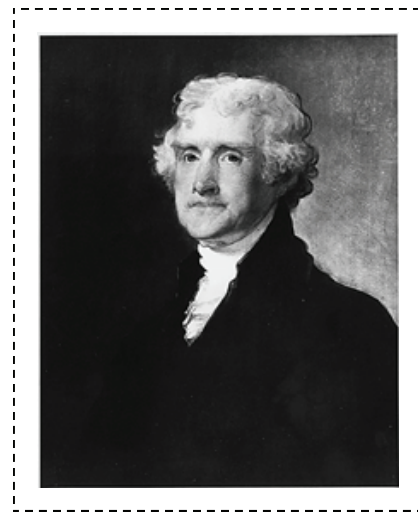
This man ruled England from 1760-1820.



This building is in Philadelphia.



This document defines the laws of the United States of America.



This man drafted the Declaration of Independence.

Road to the Constitution Timeline

April 19, 1775- Revolutionary War begins with the Battles of Lexington and Concord.



June 1776- Thomas Jefferson drafts the Declaration of Independence.

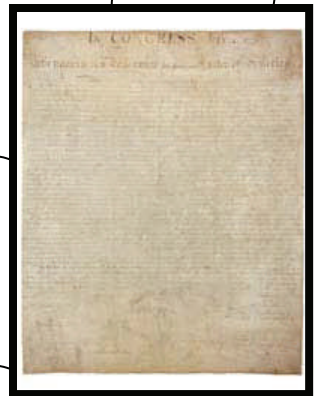
1760s and early 1770s- King George III and Parliament pass a variety of acts taxing the American colonies.

June 1775- The Continental Congress creates a continental army and appoints George Washington commander-in-chief.

October 19, 1781- British General Cornwallis surrenders to General Washington at Yorktown.

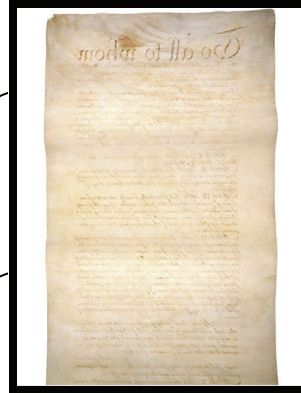


The Continental Congress begins working to create a central government.



July 4, 1776- The Continental Congress adopts the Declaration of Independence.

March 1, 1781-March 4, 1789- The Articles of Confederation govern the new nation.



May - September 1787- The Constitutional Convention meets at the Pennsylvania State House (Independence Hall) in Philadelphia.



September 17, 1787- The delegates sign the **CONSTITUTION!**

Road to the Constitution Timeline Key



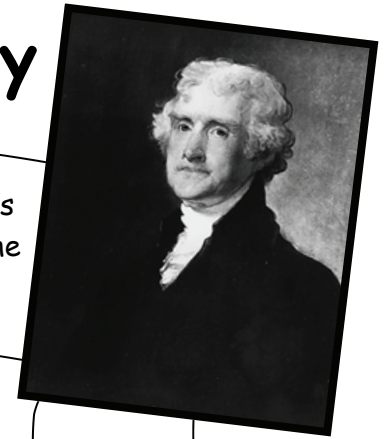
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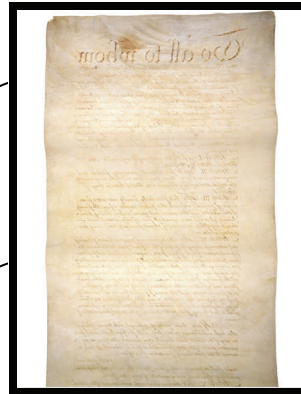


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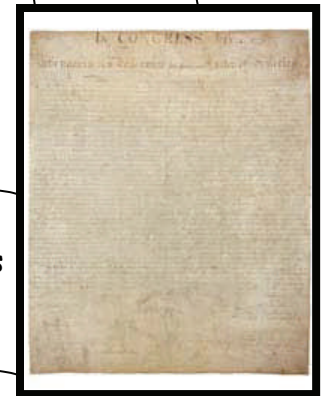


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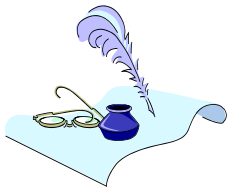


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Expand Your Vocabulary!

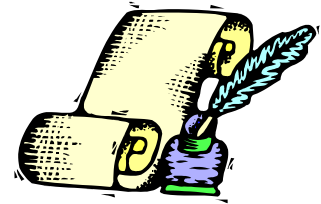
Directions: How many words can you create from the following phrases? You can only use a letter in your created word the number of times it appears in the phrase. List the words that you create on the blanks.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Example: _____ nice _____

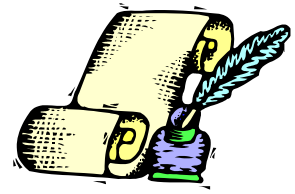
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

THE CONSTITUTION

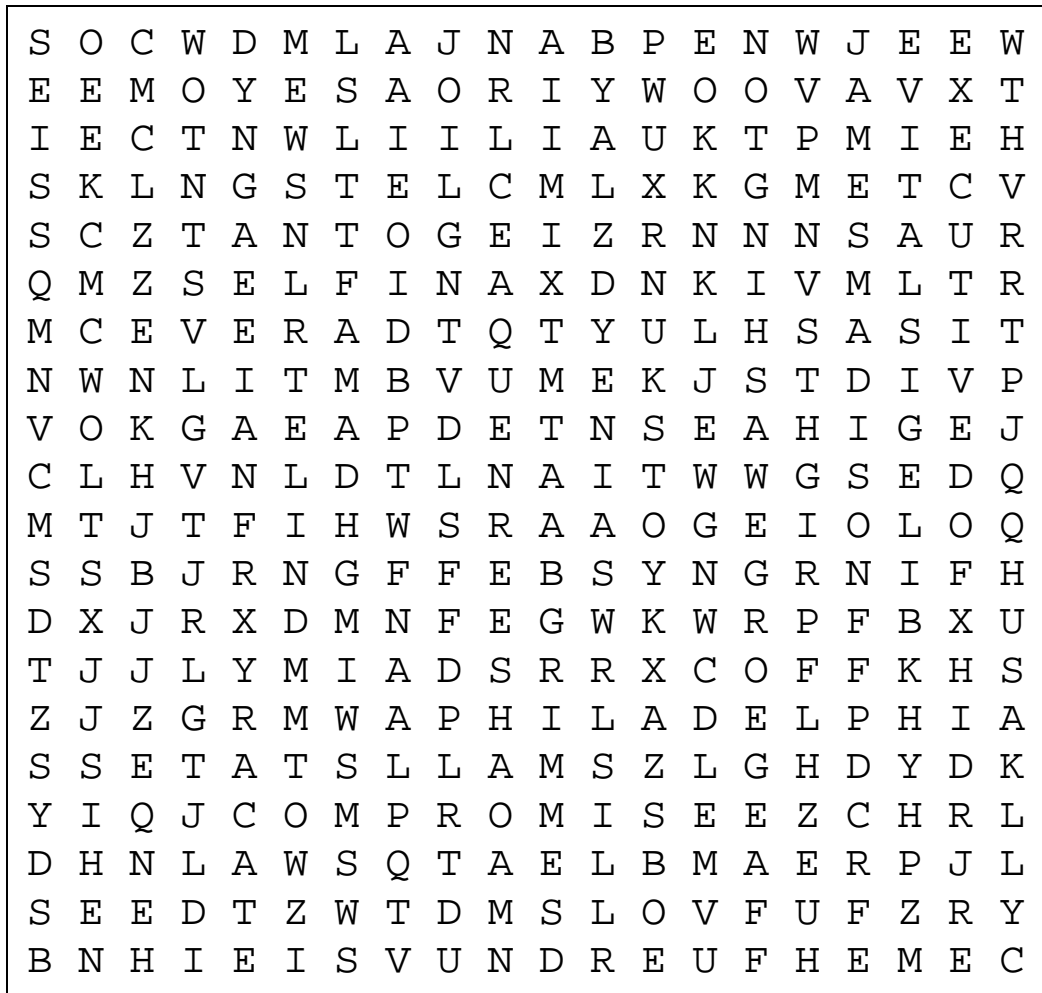


_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Constitution Word Search



Directions: Find and circle the words related to the Constitution.
Words may be down, across, diagonal, or backwards. Good Luck!



Philadelphia

Small States

Compromise

Convention

Large States

Checks and Balances

Delegates

Debate

Preamble

George Washington

Executive

Constitution

Benjamin Franklin

Legislative

Amendment

James Madison

Judicial

Bill of Rights

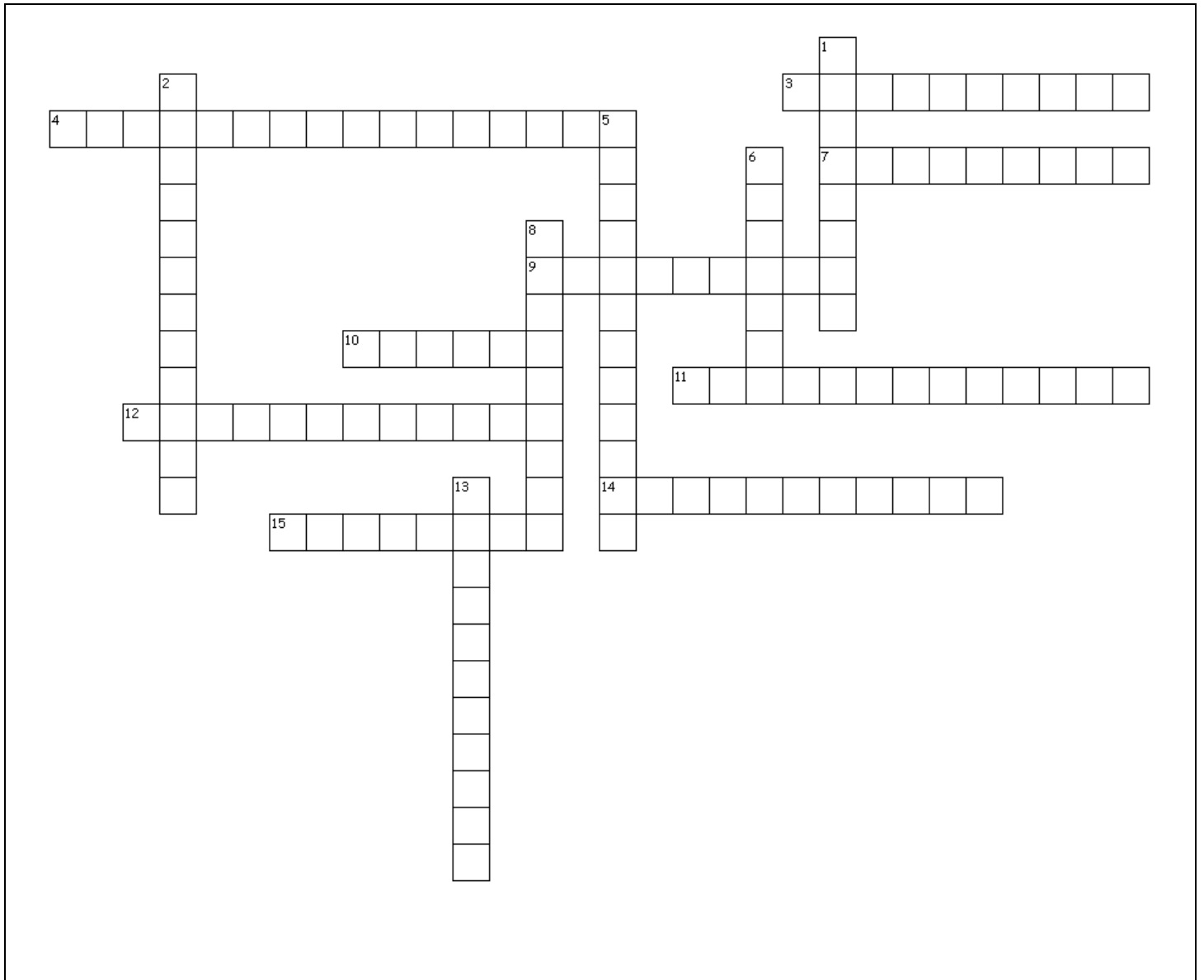
Rights

Laws



Constitution Crossword Puzzle

Directions: Draw from your knowledge about the Constitution to complete the crossword puzzle.



Constitution Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

3. The American General during the Revolutionary War was George _____.
4. The Constitution of the United States is preserved at the _____, and is on display for everyone to see!
7. A formal change to the Constitution is known as an _____.
9. The branch of government headed by the President is known as the _____ branch.
10. The _____ is the part of Congress that has the authority to approve or disapprove presidential appointments.
11. The first set of rules that governed the original 13 states was known as the Articles of _____.
12. The Constitutional Convention was held during the summer of 1787 in the city of _____ in the state of Pennsylvania.
14. _____ was the only state that did not send delegates to the Constitutional Convention.
15. _____ is made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

DOWN

1. The system known as checks and _____ allows each branch of government to have the power to check each other in order to maintain balance.
2. The first ten amendments to the Constitution is known as the _____.
5. The _____ is the head of the judicial branch.
6. James _____ is known as the "Father of the Constitution."
8. Representatives to the Constitutional Convention were known as _____.
13. The _____ of Independence is the document that declared the original 13 colonies' independence from England.

Constitution Crossword Puzzle Key

ACROSS

3. The American General during the Revolutionary War was George **Washington**.
4. The Constitution of the United States is preserved at the **National Archives**, and is on display for everyone to see!
7. A formal change to the Constitution is known as an **amendment**.
9. The branch of government headed by the President is known as the **executive** branch.
10. The **Senate** is the part of Congress that has the authority to approve or disapprove presidential appointments.
11. The first set of rules that governed the original 13 states was known as the Articles of **Confederation**.
12. The Constitutional Convention was held during the summer of 1787 in the city of **Philadelphia** in the state of Pennsylvania.
14. **Rhode Island** was the only state that did not send delegates to the Constitutional Convention.
15. **Congress** is made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

DOWN

1. The system known as checks and **balances** allows each branch of government to have the power to check each other in order to maintain balance.
2. The first ten amendments to the Constitution is known as the **Bill of Rights**.
5. The **Supreme Court** is the head of the judicial branch.
6. James **Madison** is known as the "Father of the Constitution."
8. Representatives to the Constitutional Convention were known as **delegates**.
13. The **Declaration** of Independence is the document that declared the original 13 colonies' independence from England.



We the People: A Constitution Day Program Vocabulary List



Amendment: A formal change to the Constitution.

Articles of Confederation: The first constitution or set of rules established by the Continental Congress for the original 13 states.

Bill of Rights: The first ten amendments to the Constitution.

Checks and Balances: A system that allows each branch of government to have the power to check each other to maintain a balance of power.

Compromise: Coming to an agreement.

Constitution: The document that established the basic rules and principles of the American government.

Declaration of Independence: The document signed to declare the colonies' independence from England.

Delegate: A person elected and sent to the Constitutional Convention to represent his state.

Executive Branch: The branch of government headed by the President that makes sure the laws are obeyed.

House of Representatives: The part of Congress which is responsible for originating spending bills and determining if government officials should be put on trial for committing a crime against the country. The House is made up of representatives from each state. The number of representatives from each state is based on the state's population.

Judicial Branch: The branch of government made up of the court system that decides arguments about the meaning of laws, how the laws are applied, and whether or not laws break the rules established by the Constitution.

Legislative Branch: The branch of government which makes the laws. Congress is made up of two parts, the House of Representatives and the Senate.

President: The leader of the country and head of the executive branch of government.

Senate: The part of Congress which is responsible for approving or disapproving treaties entered into by the president, approving or disapproving presidential appointments, and holding trials for individuals that commit a crime against the country. The Senate is made up of two representatives from each state known as senators.

Supreme Court: The highest court in the United States court system and the head of the judicial branch.