

Happy Birthday U.S. Constitution

Constitution Day, Sept. 17
Newspaper In Education Scavenger Hunt

- 1 The preamble of the U.S. constitution starts with *We the People of the United States*.... Find examples in the newspaper of *We the People* working together to accomplish a worthwhile goal. Cut out pictures and place on a bulletin board. You can add to this throughout the school year.
2. Draft a constitution for your classroom. Use the newspaper to find "good" laws or rules that all classroom citizens would like to have. After the constitution is drafted (sloppy copy) go through the process of reviewing, editing, changing, etc. When the final constitution is ready, hold a classroom election to ratify (adopt) it.
3. Find examples in the newspaper of the five freedoms outlined in the first amendment of the Bill of Rights.
 - Freedom of Speech
 - Freedom of Religion
 - Freedom of the Press
 - Freedom of Assembly & PetitionHold a classroom discussion about what each one means and how each applies to US citizens.
4. Find examples in the newspaper of countries, that do not have a constitution like ours or the freedoms that we enjoy. Make a list of these countries, the type of government they have, the name and title of the government leader, and the continent they are located on.
5. Find and list some things in the newspaper that might have been a part of the lives of the men who signed the constitution in 1787 (when the constitution was signed). Include housing, jobs, schools, libraries, government, obituaries, religion, commerce, etc.
6. Find and make a list of things that are totally different now than they would have been in 1787.
7. Hold a classroom discussion about how life has changed since 1787. Discuss how the constitution has had to change too, by way of amendments, to accommodate some of these changes.
8. Write an opinion about what you appreciate about the U.S. Constitution.

Created by Diane Goold, NIE Director
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