

Kids Discover Magazine on The Constitution

Pages 2 & 3: The Supreme Law of the Land

1. Describe some (2+) of the limitations of the Articles of Confederation.
 2. In 1787 what “supreme law of the land” document was written to replace the Articles of Confederation?
 3. Why did Shays’ Rebellion happen?
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Pages 4 & 5: The Constitutional Convention

5. Describe some of James Madison’s contributions to The Constitution (before and during)?
 6. Describe “The Great Compromise”.
 7. Explain the perspectives of the North and South regarding slavery. How was the issue resolved?
 8. What had to happen to the final draft of The Constitution before it could become the “Law of the Land”?
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Pages 6 & 7: Articles, Sections, and Clauses

(draw lines to match the items on the left with those on the right)

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 9. Article I | -- Supreme Court |
| 10. Article II | -- Electoral College |
| 11. Article III | -- relationship between states |
| 12. Article IV | -- debts must be paid, Constitution is law, oath of office |
| 13. Article V | -- if 9 states ratify, then the Constitution becomes law |
| 14. Article VI | -- Congress |
| 15. Article VII | -- how The Constitution can be amended |
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Pages 8 & 9: To Ratify or Not to Ratify?

16. Explain the viewpoint of the Federalists.
17. Explain the viewpoint of the Anti-Federalists.
18. What was the strongest argument against The Constitution by Anti-Federalists like Samuel Adams and John Hancock, and how were their concerns appeased?
19. Below, draw a dateless timeline that shows the approximate order of states to ratify The Constitution.

Pages 12 & 13: The Bill of Rights

20. Summarize the stuff in the red box.

(draw lines to match the items on the left with those on the right)

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|------------------------------------|--|
| 21. First Amendment----- | --right to privacy and no unreasonable search |
| 22. Second Amendment----- | --rights not listed belong to people or states |
| 23. Third & Fourth Amendments----- | --right to a trial & no cruel or unusual punishments |
| 24. Fifth Amendment----- | --freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly |
| 25. Sixth Amendment----- | --gun-control laws & much debate relate to this |
| 26. Seventh & Eighth Amendments-- | --due process and eminent domain |
| 27. Ninth & Tenth Amendments----- | --speedy & public trial with representation |

Pages 16 & 17: The Supreme Court Rules

28. The nine justices of the Supreme Court have the job of _____ the Constitution in a changing world. Fill in the blank and give an example.
29. Explain, in your own words, any one of the three Supreme Court cases described on page 16.
30. Plessy v. Ferguson made “separate but equal” legal. Brown v. The Board of Education made “separate but equal” illegal. Explain that, and give your opinion on the time it took to change the law.
31. What are your thoughts on the issue explained in the column on the right side of the right page (17)?

Page 19: The Constitutional Crossword Puzzle:

32. Answer to 1 across _____
33. Answer to 11 across _____
34. Answer to 17 across _____
35. Answer to 3 down _____
36. Answer to 12 down _____
37. Answer to 15 down _____
38. Answer to 16 down _____
39. Answer to any other _____ (what number & orientation?) _____
40. Answer to any other _____ (what number & orientation?) _____