

U.S. Constitution Scavenger Hunt Activity

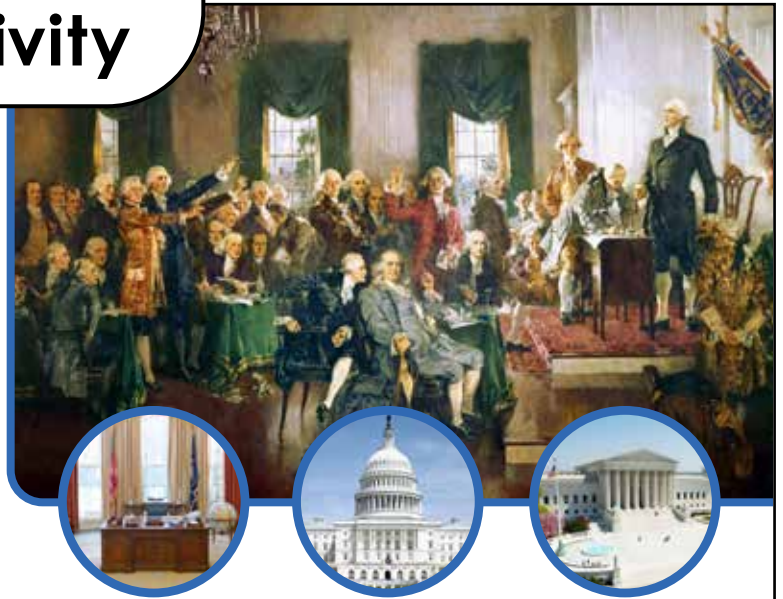
Materials:

- 18 U.S. Constitution fact cards (pages 2–6)
- U.S. Constitution questions worksheet (pages 7–8)
- scissors
- scotch tape

Preparation

Print the fact cards and cut them apart.

Make copies of the U.S. Constitution questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.



Hide all 18 U.S. Constitution fact cards around your classroom where students will be able



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Management tips

You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other.

You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- lying flat on the classroom bookshelf
- on the side of the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.



Scavenger Hunt

United States Constitution

Fact Card

1



Constitutions are the rules and guidelines that tell how something like a country, state, or group works. The U.S.

Scavenger Hunt

United States Constitution

Fact Card

2



The U.S. Constitution is the oldest written constitution in the world. Many countries heavily change



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Constitution

3



Before the Constitution, the United States followed the Articles of Confederation. It was in effect for eight years, from March 1, 1781 to March 4, 1789.

Constitution

4



The U.S. Constitution opens with a paragraph called the Preamble. It tells the authors' purpose. Its first three words are the biggest print in the whole document: "We the People..."



Scavenger Hunt

United States Constitution

Fact Card

5

I II III

IV V VI VII

The Articles explain how the U.S. government works. There are seven, ordered with Roman numerals. The first three explain

Scavenger Hunt

United States Constitution

Fact Card

6



Article II tells the president's powers in four sections. Section 1 includes requirements like age (35+) and some rules for elections.



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Constitution

1



The makeup and powers of Congress are explained in Article I. Powers include writing and passing laws, taxation, impeachment, making treaties with other nations, and more.

Constitution

8



Article III describes the judicial branch. However, it does not say how many people should sit on the Supreme Court or how many lower courts there should be.



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United States Constitution

Fact Card

9



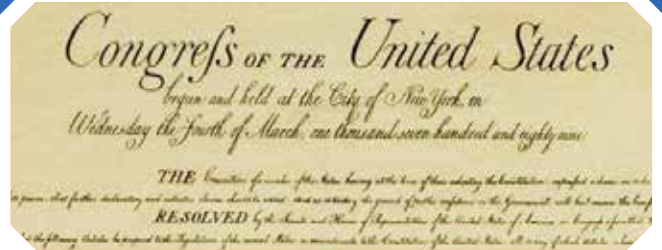
Article V tells how to make changes or additions to the U.S. Constitution. They are called amendments. Amendments can't be taken out. They can only

Scavenger Hunt

United States Constitution

Fact Card

10



The first ten amendments are called the Bill of Rights. They limit government power and protect people's rights. They were all



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Constitution

11



The U.S. Constitution has been amended 27 times. The most recent took effect in 1992. It stops Congress from raising their own pay until after a new election.

Constitution

12



The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments ended slavery, gave freed people citizens' rights, and gave voting rights to all races. They are sometimes called the Civil War or Reconstruction Amendments.



Scavenger Hunt

United States Constitution

Fact Card

13



Four amendments are about voting rights. The 15th gives all races voting rights. The 19th gives women voting rights. The 24th makes it illegal to charge money to vote.

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United States Constitution

Fact Card

14



Most U.S. presidents only served one or two terms, but there wasn't a law about it until 1951.



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Constitution

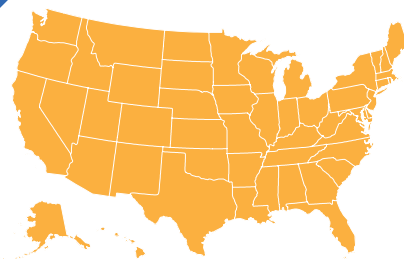
15



Before 1804, the second-place winner in the presidential election became vice president. The 12th Amendment made it so that the vice president and president ran together.

Constitution

16



The U.S. Bill of Rights thinks ahead.

The 9th Amendment says that people have more rights than the ones listed. The 10th says any powers not given to the federal government in the Constitution are left to the states.



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United States Constitution

Fact Card

17



The 1st Amendment gives the freedom of religion, speech, and press. It also gives the right to gather or protest peacefully and to complain to the

Scavenger Hunt

United States Constitution

Fact Card

18



The original U.S. Constitution is kept



Preview

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Name: _____

Side A

U.S. Constitution Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: When did the U.S. Constitution take effect?

Fact Card 2: Which country has the oldest written constitution in the world?

Fact Card 3: What did the U.S. Constitution replace? How long had it been used?



Fact Card 6: The president is named commander of the armed forces in... (*Article + Section*)

Fact Card 7: Article I is about which U.S. governing body? _____

Fact Card 8: Name one important thing that Article III does *not* give a number for.

Fact Card 9: How does the government undo an amendment?

U.S. Constitution Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: When was the Bill of Rights added to the Constitution?

Fact Card 11: When did the most recent amendment take effect?

Fact Card 12: The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments are sometimes called...



Fact Card 15: The 12th Amendment changed the election of which position the most?

Fact Card 16: Which amendment says people have rights outside of the Constitution?

Fact Card 17: Which amendment is often said to be the most important to democracy?

Fact Card 18: Which building has the original U.S. Constitution? What's the ticket price?

U.S. Constitution Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: When did the U.S. Constitution take effect?

March 4, 1789

Fact Card 2: Which country has the oldest written constitution in the world?



Fact Card 9: How does the government undo an amendment?

by passing a new amendment

U.S. Constitution Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: When was the Bill of Rights added to the Constitution?

December 15, 1791

Fact Card 11: When did the most recent amendment take effect?

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Fact Card 18: Which building has the original U.S. Constitution? What's the ticket price?

the National Archives Museum; \$0/it's free