

S.S.7th - Unit 3 Articles of Confederation, Constitution, and New Government (Grade 7)

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s): **Generic Course**
Time Period: **Marking Period 3**
Length: **# days**
Status: **Published**

Established Goals/Standards

Please choose the appropriate Goals/Standards from the Standards tab above.

SOC.5-8.6.1.8.A.3.b	Evaluate the effectiveness of the fundamental principles of the Constitution (i.e., consent of the governed, rule of law, federalism, limited government, separation of powers, checks and balances, and individual rights) in establishing a federal government that allows for growth and change over time.
SOC.5-8.6.1.8.A.3.c	Determine the role that compromise played in the creation and adoption of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.
SOC.5-8.6.1.8.A.3.d	Compare and contrast the Articles of Confederation and the UNITED STATES Constitution in terms of the decision-making powers of national government.
SOC.5-8.6.1.8.A.3.g	Evaluate the impact of the Constitution and Bill of Rights on current day issues.
SOC.5-8.6.1.8.B.3.b	Determine the extent to which the geography of the United States influenced the debate on representation in Congress and federalism by examining the New Jersey and Virginia plans.
SOC.5-8.6.1.8.C.3.a	Explain how taxes and government regulation can affect economic opportunities, and assess the impact of these on relations between Britain and its North American colonies.
SOC.5-8.6.1.8.D.3.g	Evaluate the extent to which the leadership and decisions of early administrations of the national government met the goals established in the Preamble of the Constitution.

Essential Questions

Please add your Essential Questions by clicking on the Lists tab above.

- How did the delegates settle the question of representation?
- How do the goals and principles of the Constitution reflect American ideals and provide protection for its people?
- How does federalism divide power?
- How does the system of checks and balances prevent the abuse of power?
- How did the Land Ordinance of 1785 and the Northwest Ordinance affect the settlement of the Northwest Territory?
- What role did compromise play in the creation of the United States Constitution?
- What successes did the United States experience under the Articles of Confederation?
- What type of government did the Constitution create?
- Why did many Americans feel that the Articles of Confederation needed to be revised?
- Why did many Americans feel that the Articles of Confederation needed to be revised?

Enduring Understanding

Please add your Enduring Understandings by clicking on the Lists tab above.

- Compromise is often necessary to achieve a goal.
- Democratic governments must balance the rights of individuals with the common good.
- The Constitution is a living document.
- The goals of the Constitution are set forth in the Preamble.
- The ideas of the Enlightenment influenced the Constitution.
- The United States Constitution provides protection for citizen's rights as well as a written plan for government.
- Weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation resulted in the need for a new constitution.

Content

- Analyze how certain values including individual rights, the common good, self-government, justice, equality, and free inquiry are fundamental to American public life.
- Describe representative government and explain how it works to protect the majority and the minority.
- Describe the underlying values and principles of democracy and distinguish these from authoritarian forms of government.
- Discuss how the ideas of John Locke and Montesquieu influenced the Constitution.
- Discuss the major characteristics of democratic governments.
- Discuss the major principles of the Constitution, including shared powers, checks and balances, separation of church and state, and federalism.
- Discuss the sources, purposes, and functions of law and the importance of the rule of law for the preservation of individual rights and the common good.
- Explain how the Great Compromise was a synthesis of two plans.
- Identify the main role and specific elements of each branch of government.

Resources

- "We the People" textbook
- ActivBoard Flipcharts
- Discovery Education Streaming
- Foundations of American Government
- Various websites