

# **Unit 3: Institutions of National Government: The Congress, the Presidency, the Bureaucracy, and the Federal Courts**

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **US Govt & Politics AP**  
Time Period: **DecJan**  
Length: **6 weeks 11th and 12 grade**  
Status: **Published**

## **Title Section**

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## **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

Unit 3: Institutions of National Government: The Congress, the Presidency, the Bureaucracy and the Federal Courts

**Belleville Board of Education**

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Board Approved: September 23, 2019

## **Unit Overview**

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### **Unit 3 Institutions of National Government: The Congress, the Presidency, the Bureaucracy, and the Federal Courts**

- a. The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power
- b. Relationships among these four institutions and varying balances of power
- c. Linkages between institutions and the following:
  - i. Public opinion and voters
  - ii. Interest groups

- iii. Political parties
  
- iv. The media
  
- v. State and local government

## **Enduring Understanding**

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**Student will understand the basic principals used to create the constitution, systems of Checks and Balances, Limited Government, Federalism, Popular Sovereignty, Seperation of Powers, Judicial Review.**

### **Definition: *Enduring Understandings***

Enduring understandings are statements summarizing important ideas and core processes that are central to a discipline and have lasting value beyond the classroom. They synthesize what students should understand—not just know or do—as a result of studying a particular content area. Moreover, they articulate what students should “revisit” over the course of their lifetimes in relationship to the content area.

Enduring understandings:

1. Frame the big ideas that give meaning and lasting importance to such discrete curriculum elements as facts and skills
2. Can transfer to other fields as well as adult life
3. “Unpack” areas of the curriculum where students may struggle to gain understanding or demonstrate misunderstandings and misconceptions
4. Provide a conceptual foundation for studying the content area and
5. Are deliberately framed as declarative sentences that present major curriculum generalizations and recurrent ideas.

## Essential Questions

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- Q1. How do the three branches use checks and balances? Is there enough balance between the branches?
- Q2. How does a bill become a law? Who do legislators rely on to help them develop appropriate legislation?
- Q3. The decision making process for Congress members is quite complex, what factors influence their decisions and what ideals should guide their actions?
- Q4. How has the Constitution outlined the duties, responsibilities, and powers for the three branches?
- Q5. How has the power of the branches expanded throughout the history of the United States and is any one branch more powerful?
- Q6. How do the branches use media to affect public opinions?
- Q7. Has the bureaucracy become too large or is it necessary to successfully carry out the laws of a complex society?
- Q8. What is the role of the federal bureaucracy in implementing, managing and evaluating federal policy?
- Q9. How is the bureaucracy managed by the other three branches of government?
- Q10. What are the different types of bureaucratic institutions and how does their oversight reflect their

function?

## **Exit Skills**

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What are the skills that the students should have obtained by the end of this unit?

1. How do interest groups organize, raise money, and influence government?
2. How has the rise in cable news and the internet influenced the political process and elections?
3. What is the relationship between the media and public opinion?
4. How do competing interests influence how power is distributed and exercised?
5. How have political parties evolved over time as a result of historical developments?
6. What are the fundamental differences between the major political parties and what are the advantages and disadvantages of having political parties?
7. How do political parties and their organizational structures affect each of the following: the legislative branch, the executive branch, the judicial branch, state and local governments, and elections?

Vocabulary

Cabinet

Commander in Chief

bureaucracy

writ of certiorari

precedent

judicial activism

Judicial restraint

entitlement programs

foreign policy

civil liberties

Establishment Clause

clear and present danger

## **New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSL-S)**

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SOC.6.1.12.A.2.d

Explain how judicial review made the Supreme Court an influential branch of government, and assess the continuing impact of the Supreme Court today.

SOC.6.1.12.A.3.d

Describe how the Supreme Court increased the power of the national government and promoted national economic growth during this era.

SOC.6.1.12.A.4

Civics, Government, and Human Rights

SOC.6.1.12.A.4.c

Judge the effectiveness of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments in obtaining citizenship

and equality for African Americans.

- SOC.6.1.12.A.6.c Relate the creation of African American advocacy organizations (i.e., the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) to United States Supreme Court decisions (i.e., Plessy v. Ferguson) and state and local governmental policies.
- SOC.6.1.12.A.13.a Analyze the effectiveness of the New Jersey Constitution of 1947, New Jersey Supreme Court decisions (i.e., Hedgepeth and Williams v. Trenton Board of Education), and New Jersey's Law Against Discrimination (i.e., P.L. 1945, c.169) in eliminating segregation and discrimination.
- SOC.6.1.12.A.13.b Analyze the effectiveness of national legislation, policies, and Supreme Court decisions (i.e., the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act, the Equal Rights Amendment, Title VII, Title IX, Affirmative Action, Brown v. Board of Education, and Roe v. Wade) in promoting civil liberties and equal opportunities.
- SOC.6.1.12.A.14.b Analyze how the Supreme Court has interpreted the Constitution to define the rights of the individual, and evaluate the impact on public policies.

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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- 0xLA.RH.11-12.1 Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, connecting insights gained from specific details to develop an understanding of the text as a whole.
- 0xLA.RH.11-12.3 Evaluate various perspectives for actions or events; determine which explanation best accords with textual evidence, acknowledging where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- 0xLA.RH.11-12.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including analyzing how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).
- 0xLA.RH.11-12.5 Analyze in detail how a complex primary source is structured, including how key sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text contribute to the whole.
- 0xLA.RST.11-12.1 Accurately cite strong and thorough evidence from the text to support analysis of science and technical texts, attending to precise details for explanations or descriptions.
- 0xLA.RST.11-12.2 Determine the central ideas, themes, or conclusions of a text; summarize complex concepts, processes, or information presented in a text by paraphrasing them in simpler but still accurate terms.
- 0xLA.RST.11-12.4 Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to grades 11-12 texts and topics.
- 0xLA.WHST.11-12.2 Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.
- 0xLA.WHST.11-12.2.B Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
- 0xLA.WHST.11-12.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- 0xLA.WHST.11-12.8 Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the

strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the specific task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.

0x Key Ideas and Details

## **Learning Objectives**

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**Student will understand the 6 basic principals used to create the constitution, systems of Checks and Balances, Limited Government, Federalism, Popular Sovereignty, Separation of Powers, Judicial Review.**

### **Tips on Writing Good Learning Objectives**

#### **Bloom's Taxonomy**

#### **Applying Bloom's Taxonomy to Learning Objectives**

Effective learning objectives need to be observable and/or measureable, and using action verbs is a way to achieve this. Verbs such as “identify”, “argue,” or “construct” are more measureable than vague or passive verbs such as “understand” or “be aware of”. As you develop your syllabus focus on articulating clear learning objectives and then use these objectives to guide class assignments, exams and overall course assessment questions.

#### **Sample Learning Objectives for a Lower Division Course**

**After completing Nutrition 101 *Humans and Food*, students will be able to:**

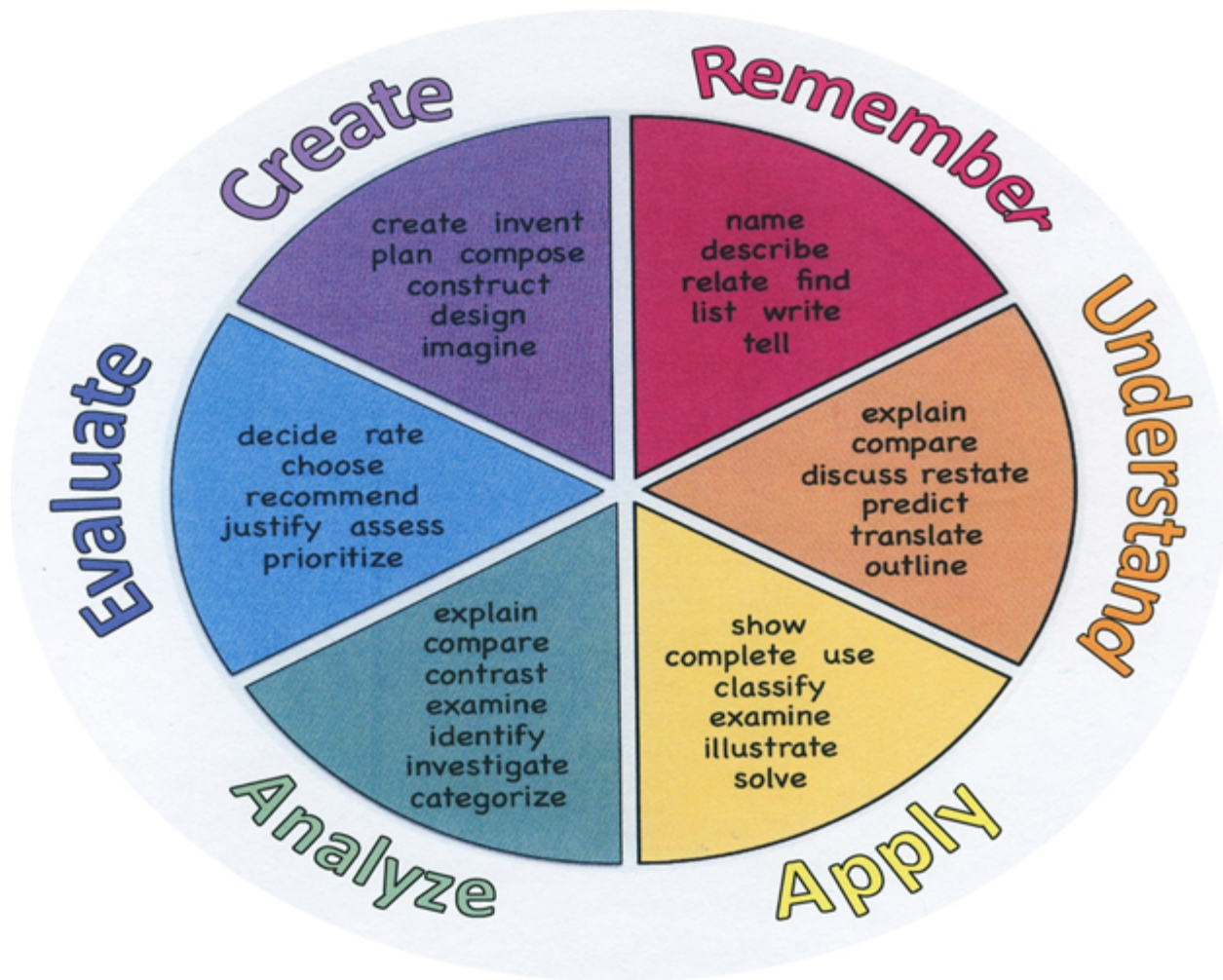
- **Identify** nutrients found in common food sources via the product's nutrition label
- Use computer dietary analysis to assess a 2-day dietary intake and **summarize** results
- **Locate** nutrition-related information on the Internet and use **evaluative** criteria to **identify** reliability of



the information

**Action Verbs:** Below are examples of action verbs associated with each level of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy.

<b>Remember</b>	<b>Understand</b>	<b>Apply</b>	<b>Analyze</b>	<b>Evaluate</b>	<b>Create</b>
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				



### **Suggested Activities & Best Practices**

What Do Best Practices Look Like? Classrooms that exemplify best practices are easy to detect as soon as you enter the room. • Project materials and books are numerous. • Students are engaged and focused on their work. • Teachers often use collaborative and/or authentic tasks that place students at the center of the learning process. • Seating arrangements are clustered, varied and functional with multiinstructional areas. • Classrooms are activity-based spaces as opposed to places to “sit and get” lectures. • Teachers are actively engaged with different groups and students are anxious to enlist visitors in their various tasks or assignments. • There is a joyful feeling of purposeful movement, industrious thinking and a vital and vibrant atmosphere and environment.

1. What are the most enduring ideas in the Constitution?
2. Write a persuasive essay in response to the essential question. Your essay should include key people, events, and turning points in the story of the U.S. Constitution. Be sure to cite evidence to support your position and organize your essay into an introduction, body, and conclusion.
3. *Analyze and write a narrative explaining how Marbury v. Madison established judicial review and why*

*this concept made the Supreme Court an influential branch of government.*

4. *Mapping activities and charts to analyze how new inventions and modes of transportation (e.g., canals and railroads) transformed the economy and expanded domestic and international markets.*
5. *Research landmark cases (e.g., McCulloch v. Maryland, Gibbons v. Ogden) to show how the Supreme Court expanded the power of the national government and promoted national economic growth during this era*
6. *Research and report the influence of Manifest Destiny on foreign policy during this time period.*

### **Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)**

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• Exit Tickets-formative assessment
• Admit Tickets
• Common benchmarks
• Evaluation rubrics
• Self- assessments
• Unit tests-summative assessment
• Quizzes

Create a Multimedia poster-benchmark assessment

Written reports-alternate assessment

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate

- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

## **Primary Resources & Materials**

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MaGruder's American Government Textbook, 2009 - Prentice Hall , Upper Saddle River, New Jersey

### **Supplemental Readings:**

The United States Constitution

The United States Patriot Act.

We The People: The Citizen and the Constitution (Level 3) Center for Civic Education, Calabasas California.

## Multiple-Choice & Free Response Questions in Preparation for the United States Government and Politics Examination (5th

Edition) Ethel Wood and Maria Schmidt D&S Marketing Systems, Inc. Classroom subscription to *The New York Times*

Classroom subscription to *The New York Times Upfront* Teacher provided articles from *Newsweek* and *Time* Magazine The Most Recent Editions of the Following Study Guides:

Kaplan AP US Government and Politics

Cracking the AP US Government and Politics Exam

## **Ancillary Resources**

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Lap tops, LCD Projector, Internet, Websites, Library

## **Technology Infusion**

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Students will utilize: Chrome books, the Internet, Google Classroom and other technologies such as The Cornell on line Library and our on-line text book.

What **Technology Infusion** and/or strategies are integrated into this unit to enhance learning? Please list all hardware, software and strategies. Please find a technology pedagogy wheel for assistance while completing this section.

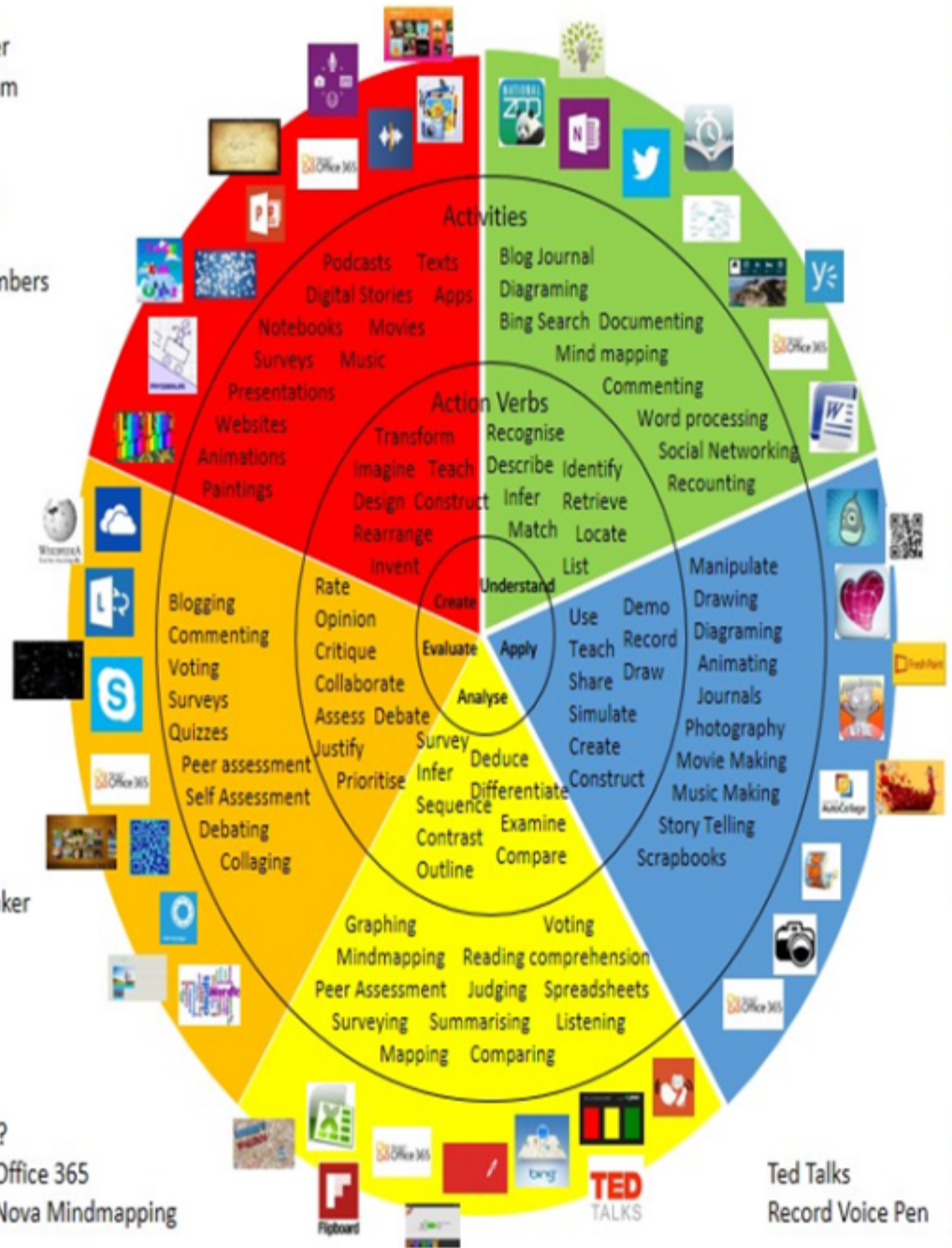
# Win 8.1 Apps/Tools Pedagogy Wheel

Podcasts  
 Photostory 3  
 Kid Story Builder  
 Music Maker Jam  
 Paint A Story  
 Office 365  
 MS PowerPoint  
 Stack 'Em Up  
 NqSquared Numbers  
 Physamajig  
 Xylophone 8

Wikipedia  
 Skydrive  
 Lync  
 SkyMap  
 Skype  
 Office 365  
 Puzzle Touch  
 Easy QR  
 Memorylage  
 Life Moments  
 Word Cloud Maker

Where's Waldo?  
 MS Excel  
 Flipboard  
 Office 365  
 Nova Mindmapping

Ted Talks  
 Record Voice Pen



Originally taken from <http://www.coetail.com/vzimmer/files/2013/02/IPadagogy-Wheel.001.jpg>  
 And adapted for Windows 8.1 devices by Charlotte Beckhurst @CharBeckhurst

## **Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology**

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### **Key SUBJECTS AND 21st CENTURY THEMES**

Mastery of key subjects and 21st century themes is essential for all students in the 21st century.

Key subjects include:

- English, reading or language arts
- World languages
- Arts
- Mathematics
- Economics
- Science
- Geography
- History
- Government and Civics

### **21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes**

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- 0x • Global Awareness
- 0x • Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- 0x • Civic Literacy
- 0x • Health Literacy
- 0x • Environmental Literacy
- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

### **21st Century Skills**

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- 0x • Communication and Collaboration

- 0x • Information Literacy
- 0x • Media Literacy
- 0x • ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- 0x • Life and Career Skills
- 0x • Creativity and Innovation
- 0x • Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

## Differentiation

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### Differentiations:

- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

## Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)

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Please identify the **Special Education Learning** adaptations that will be employed in the unit, using the ones identified below.

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding



- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multiple test sessions
- multi-sensory presentation
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## **English Language Learning (ELL)**

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Please identify the **English Language Learning** adaptations that will be employed in the unit, using the ones identified below.

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## **At Risk**

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Please identify Intervention Strategies that will be employed in the unit, using the ones identified below.

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## **Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)**

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Please identify the **Talented and Gifted** adaptations that will be employed in the unit, using the ones identified below.

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery

- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

## **Sample Lesson**

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**Unit Name: The Constitution Treasure hunt**

**NJSLS: linked**

**Interdisciplinary Connection:Linked**

**Statement of Objective:**

Students will be able to analyze primary source historical documents to answer comprehension questions in groups using the Constitution to research answers to the task.

**Anticipatory Set/Do Now:Linked**

**Learning Activity:**

Students will work in pairs to complete the task at hand. Day 2

**Student Assessment/CFU's:Linked**

**Materials:** Laptop, LCD, Text Maps, handouts,

**21st Century Themes and Skills: Linked**

**Differentiation:** Students can choose what resource they want to utilize the online books, smart TV or textbook to investigate and finish the task.

**Integration of Technology:** During group research, students will utilize laptops if available or cell phones to access the INTERNET. <https://www.library.cornell.edu/> Smart Tv and Chrome Books.