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| **Strand: Civics** | | | |
| **Topic: The learner will investigate the foundations of the American political system and explore basic values and**  **Principles of American democracy**. | | | |
| **Grade: 9** | | | |
| **Score 4.0** | * **Student is able to meet all expectations for 3.0 and** * **Explain how the U.S. Constitution establishes a system of government that has powers, responsibilities, and limits that have changed over time and that are still contested** * **Debate current issues and controversies of the U.S. Constitution** | | **Sample Activities** |
| * Analyze current issues that test the U.S. Constitution and the separation of power * Illustrate the Amendments project |
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| **Score 3.0** | **The student can:**   * **Summarize the arguments made for the Declaration of Independence** * **Trace and analyze the development of ideas about self-government in British North America.** * **Compare and Contrast the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution** | | * Using a graphic organizer, compare British actions and colonists’ reactions during the pre-Revolutionary Period * Using a “fishbone” diagram and the term Articles of Confederation, chart and categorize the strengths and weaknesses in the new government. |
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| **Score 2.0** | * **Students are able to identify vocabulary, concepts, people, places and events related foundations of American Government** * **Can identify and /or explain: why the colonists decided to create a constitutional government** * **Explain the purpose of government** * **Explain the importance of historical documents and events that**   **influenced the structure and development of the United States** | | * Vocabulary Terms worksheet * SchoolHouse Rock “No More Kings”,” Shot Heard Round The World” * Identify Key Documents using primary sources * Hobbes, Leviathan |
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| **Score 1.0** | **Define the meaning of government dictatorship (e.g., totalitarian, militarist, despot) absolute monarchy direct democracy indirect democracy parliamentary democracy** | |
|  | **0.5** | With help, a partial understanding of the 2.0 content, but not the 3.0 content. |
| **Score 0.0** | **Even with help, no understanding or skill demonstrated.** | |