|  |
| --- |
| **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
 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **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.
 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **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* **Explain the importance of historical documents and events that**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
 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **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.** |