Unit 4a-A New Nation

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s): **Social Studies 5**
Time Period: **Marking Period 4**
Length: **Chapter 6**
Status: **Published**

Essential Questions

- What is the purpose of government?

Big Ideas

- The fundamental principles of the United States Constitution serve as the foundation of the United States government today.
- Every citizen is equal under the laws of the United States.
- The U.S. Constitution is an enduring document that has been amended over time.
- The U.S. Constitution guarantees the rights of citizens and gives them power over the government.
- The U.S. Constitution provides a system with separation of powers and checks and balances to help limit the power of the federal government.
- Compromise was used to find a balance between the needs and desires of various groups brought together under the U.S Constitution.

Cross-Curricular Integration

Integration Area: Language Arts

W.WR.5.5 Establish a central idea about a topic, investigation, issue or event and use several sources to support the proposed central idea.

Activity:

Students will conduct a short research project about the Constitution and how it applies to their lives today.

Document Based Activity

6.1.5.CivicsHR.1 Describe how fundamental rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights contribute to the improvement of American democracy (i.e., freedom of expression, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of petition, the right to vote, and the right to due process).

DBQ Activity

How did America's Founding Fathers impact the birth of our nation?

Students will learn about the founding fathers and explain what it takes to be a hero.

For the complete DBQ Pla, Please refer to MP 4a - A New Nation PDF.

Social Justice

See Appendix C

Book 1: Eyes that Kiss in the Corners by Joanna Ho (Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage)

Book 2: A Day for Rememberin': Inspired by the True Events of the First Memorial Day by Leah Henderson (Military)

CSDT Technology Integration

8.1.5.DA.1: Collect, organize, and display data in order to highlight relationships or support a claim.

Activity:

Students will collaborate to research information using the internet and print sources detailing the creation and adoption of the United States Constitution. Students will take part in the online Quest: Yay or Nay, I Say! where they will have the opportunity to review and analyze online sources before voting using a digital device to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

Enduring Understandings

6.1 U.S. History: America in the World by the End of Grade 5

Civics, Government, and Human Rights: Civics and Political Institutions

6.1.5.CivicsPI.7 [M]: Explain how national and state governments share power in the federal system of government.

6.1.5.CivicsPI.8 [M]: Describe how the United States Constitution defines and limits the power of government

Civics, Government, and Human Rights: Human and Civil Rights

6.1.5.CivicsHR.1 [M]: Describe how fundamental rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights contribute to the improvement of American democracy (i.e., freedom of expression, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of petition, the right to vote, and the right to due process).

6.1.5.CivicsHR.2 [M]: Research and cite evidence for how the actions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other historical civil rights leaders served as catalysts for social change, inspired social activism in subsequent generations.

History, Culture, and Perspectives: Continuity and Change

6.1.5.HistoryCC.15 [M]: Analyze key historical documents to determine the role they played in past and present-day government and citizenship (i.e., the Mayflower Compact, the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights).

Focus Areas

- Understand how the U.S. government was structured under the Articles of Confederation and identify the weakness of this structure.
- Discuss early challenges (Shay's Rebellion, the Land Ordinance restrictions, Northwest Territory) for the new nation.
- Explain why the Constitutional Convention was held.
- Explain the purpose of the Bill of Rights.
- Explain the importance of the three branches of government and how it provides checks and balances.

Activities and Assessments

Graphic Organizers / Notes

School House Rocks - The Preamble

BrainPop Videos

Liberty Kids

Quest: Write Your Letter

Tests – multiple choice / open-ended

Communication and Collaboration Project

DBQ: Founding Fathers

Quest: Yay or Nay, I Say!

The U.S. Constitution: Then and Now