1st & 2nd Grades
Lesson Plan
Constitution Day - September 17

September 17th
Celebrate the
Birthday of
Our Government
Constitution Day
# Wreaths Across America Lesson Plan

**Teacher:**

**Date:**

**Grades:** 1st & 2nd Grades

**Lesson:** Constitution Day, September 17

<table>
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<th>OBJECTIVES: US Department of Education: Each educational institution that receives Federal funds for a fiscal year is required to hold an educational program about the U.S. Constitution for its students on September 17 (if it falls on a weekend; it should be held in the previous or next week).</th>
<th>STRATEGIES:</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Drawing/Coloring</td>
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<td>• Writing</td>
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<td>• Think/Pair/Share</td>
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<td>• Collaboration</td>
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<td>• Groups</td>
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<td>• Large Group</td>
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| MATERIALS: | Computer/laptop; internet (with access to YouTube); Smart Board; copies of Breaking Down the Big Words of the Preamble to the US Constitution; copies of the My Preamble for Classroom Rules; copies of the Preamble Vocabulary Matching Worksheet; copies of the Constitution Day Coloring Sheet; copies of the Draw & Decorate a Birthday Cake in Honor of the US Constitution’s Birthday!! |

| Engage: Hook the students | Think/Pair/Share Activity- Pair the students with a partner. Explain the T/P/S directions. The students will think of their answer, get with their partner, and share their answer. Write the word Constitution on the board. Ask the students, Does anyone know what that big word is?” Pronounce the word. Tell the students to pronounce the word with you. Explain that the US Constitution is our country’s rules and laws, and September 17 is the birthday of the Constitution. Explain that the constitution also gives us many of the rights and freedoms we have in this country, for example, freedom of speech and freedom of religion. However, with those freedoms and rights, we have the responsibility to be a good citizen, a citizen is a person who legally belongs to a country. **T/P/S Question:** Why does a country need laws? |

| Explore: Students make sense of a concept through observations. | Hand out copies of Breaking Down the Big Words of the Preamble to the US Constitution. Tell students they will use this to read along when the video gets to page 3 of the book. Tell students to circle the BIG words when they understand the meaning. Play the YouTube Read Aloud Video, *We the Kids*-Author David Catrow [https://youtu.be/m0ZV8ME6z_s](https://youtu.be/m0ZV8ME6z_s) Hand out copies of the My Preamble for Classroom Rules. Allow students time to complete their rules. Hand out copies of the Preamble Vocabulary Matching Worksheet. Play the YouTube Schoolhouse Rock Video, *The Preamble*. [https://youtu.be/8_NzZvdbsWl](https://youtu.be/8_NzZvdbsWl) as students work on the worksheet allow students to sing with the video to help them complete the worksheet. Hand out either the coloring sheet or the drawing sheet. |

| Explain: Teacher introduces formal vocabulary and language to students. | Vocabulary is on the *We the Kids* Breaking Down the Big Words of the Preamble to the US Constitution Vocabulary Sheet. |

| Elaborate: Students apply what they have learned. | Students learn about the Preamble to the US Constitution and the rights and responsibilities of citizens of a democracy, by completing the materials and activities in this lesson plan. |

| Evaluate: assessment. | The teacher will determine the activities that will be utilized for formal and informal assessment. |

| Enrichment/Service-Learning Project | Let students select a project they can do at school or at home, that defines what it means to be a good citizen. |

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Remember-Honor-Teach
Wreaths Across America
Lesson Plan

Teacher: ____________________  Date: ____________________

Grades: 1st & 2nd Grades  Lesson: Constitution Day, September 17

Name__________________________________

We the Kids Author David Catrow

Breaking Down the Big Words of the Preamble to the US Constitution

Preamble-the first part of something, an introduction

We the People of the United States—all of the people in our country, including the kids.

In Order To Form A More Perfect Union—to come together and makes things better for everyone who lives in our country.

Establish Justice—to make things fair and honest for everyone.

Insure Domestic Tranquility—to make sure we can all have a nice life and get along with one another.

Provide For The Common Defense—to protect us from other people or other countries who might try to harm us, as in a war, and to help us if we have been harmed.

Promote The General Welfare—To help make life good for everybody. Having enough to eat, a place to live, being safe and having friends and fun times are some of the things that make our lives good.

And Secure The Blessings Of Liberty—To protect our rights and freedoms and not let anyone take them away. Being able to choose our religion, to say what we think, and to get together with friends, family and other people are some of the freedoms we have.

To Ourselves And Our Posterity—For kids, parents, and other grown-ups and all the people born in our country after we are.

Do Ordain And Establish This Constitution—To write down, and then to live by, a list of rules and promises for our government to keep and our people to obey.

For The United States Of America—Our country, where we live.

Remember-Honor-Teach
NAME___________________________________

My Preamble for Classroom Rules

We the students of_________________________________,

in Order to form a more_________________________________,

establish_________________________________________,

insure ___________________________________________,

provide for the ___________________________________,

promote the_____________________________________,

and secure the ___________________________________,

to ourselves and our _______________________________

do ordain and establish this Constitution for

___________________________________________________.

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NAME_____________________________

Preamble Vocabulary Matching

_____the first part of something, an introduction
_____all of the people in our country, including the kids.
_____ to come together and makes things better for everyone who lives in our country.
_____ to make things fair and honest for everyone.
_____to make sure we can all have a nice life and get along with one another.
_____to protect us from other people or other countries who might try to harm us, as in a war, and to help us if we have been harmed.

_____To help make life good for everybody. Having enough to eat, a place to live, being safe and having friends and fun times are some of the things that make our lives good.

_____To protect our rights and freedoms and not let anyone take them away. Being able to choose our religion, to say what we think, and to get together with friends, family and other people are some of the freedoms we have.

_____For kids, parents, and other grown-ups and all the people born in our country after we are.

_____To write down, and then to live by, a list of rules and promises for our government to keep and our people to obey.

_____Our country, where we live.

A. Establish Justice
B. Promote the General Welfare
C. Provide For The Common Defense
D. To Ourselves And Our Posterity
E. Do Ordain And Establish This Constitution
F. We the People of the United States
G. Insure Domestic Tranquility
H. And Secure the Blessings Of Liberty
I. For The United States Of America
J. In Order To Form A More Perfect Union
K. Preamble

Remember-Honor-Teach
ANSWER KEY

K the first part of something, an introduction

I all of the people in our country, including the kids.

F to come together and makes things better for everyone who lives in our country.

A to make things fair and honest for everyone.

G to make sure we can all have a nice life and get along with one another.

C to protect us from other people or other countries who might try to harm us, as in a war, and to help us if we have been harmed.

B To help make life good for everybody. Having enough to eat, a place to live, being safe and having friends and fun times are some of the things that make our lives good.

H To protect our rights and freedoms and not let anyone take them away. Being able to choose our religion, to say what we think, and to get together with friends, family and other people are some of the freedoms we have.

D For kids, parents, and other grown-ups and all the people born in our country after we are.

E To write down, and then to live by, a list of rules and promises for our government to keep and our people to obey.

I Our country, where we live.

A. Establish Justice

B. Promote the General Welfare

C. Provide For The Common Defense

D. To Ourselves And Our Posterity

E. Do Ordain And Establish This Constitution

F. In Order To Form A More Perfect Union

G. Insure Domestic Tranquility

H. And Secure the Blessings Of Liberty

I. We the People of the United States

J. For The United States Of America

K. Preamble

Remember-Honor-Teach
Name _______________________

Draw & Decorate a Birthday Cake in Honor of the US Constitution’s Birthday!!