3rd & 4th Grades
Lesson Plan
Constitution Day—September 17th

We the People

Article 1.

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have Qualifications for Electors prescribed in the respective constitutions, which Electors shall be Annual

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty-five Years, and been nine Years a Resident within his State...

WREATHS across AMERICA
**Wreaths Across America**  
**Lesson Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grades: 3rd &amp; 4th</td>
<td>Lesson: Constitution Day September 17th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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).

**STRATEGIES:**
- Writing
- Think/Pair/Share
- Collaboration
- Discussion Questions
- Small Groups
- Large Group
- Coloring Sheet

**MATERIALS:**
- Computer/laptop; internet (with access to YouTube); Smart Board; zipper baggies copies of the Constitution Vocabulary Sheet; copies of the Constitution Day Vocabulary Worksheet; copies of Comprehension Worksheet *We the People, Civic Values in America*; copies of the Preamble Scramble; copies of the Constitution Day Coloring Sheet

**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. **Read aloud:** The U.S. Constitution was written in 1787. How old does that make our constitution? Even though it is very old, the Constitution is still relevant to our lives every day. Many of the rights/freedoms we have in this country are provided in the first 10 Amendments to the constitution, we call the first 10 Amendments the Bill of Rights. With the freedoms we enjoy in the United States come responsibilities to be a good citizen. **T/P/S Question:** Make a list of three things that you can do as a good citizen. When the students have finished, let each student share one of their answers with the rest of the class. Write their answers on the board. Discuss the different answers, have the students rank the top 5 answers.

**Explore:** Students make sense of a concept through observations.

Hand out a copy of the Constitution Vocabulary to each student. Go over the vocabulary orally. Play the YouTube Read Aloud, *We the People: Civic Values in America*, Author Kelly Rodgers, [https://youtu.be/6xX8brrD3L4](https://youtu.be/6xX8brrD3L4)


Handout copies of the Preamble Scramble.

Hand out copies of the Constitution Day Coloring Sheet.

**Explain:** Teacher introduces formal vocabulary and language to students.

| amendments | colonies | independence | US Constitution |
| Articles of Confederation | colonists | justice | values |
| citizens | democracy | responsibilities |
| civics | equality | rights |

**Elaborate:** Students apply what they have learned.

Students learn about the rights and responsibilities of citizens of a democracy, and to appreciate the importance of active citizenship 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.
Wreaths Across America  
Lesson Plan  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades: 3rd &amp; 4th</th>
<th>Lesson: Constitution Day September 17th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Constitution Vocabulary Words**

- **Amendments**: changes to the words or meaning of a law or document
- **Articles**: the body of the US Constitution that explains how the government works
- **Articles of Confederation**: the first set of laws for the United States before the US Constitution
- **Citizen**: a person who legally belongs to a country
- **Civic**: having to do with being a citizen
- **Colonies**: areas ruled by another country
- **Colonists**: people who live in a colony
- **Democracy**: a form of government in which people choose their leaders by voting in elections
- **Equality**: being equal or the same
- **Independence**: freedom from outside control or support
- **Justice**: fairness
- **Preamble**: the introduction to the constitution, it states why the constitution was written
- **Responsibilities**: tasks or duties that are required of a person
- **Rights**: things a person should be allowed to have or to do
- **United States Constitution**: the system of beliefs and laws by which the United States is organized
- **Values**: strongly held beliefs about what is important

Remember-Honor-Teach
Name_______________________________

**Constitution Day Vocabulary Worksheet**

Directions: Use the vocabulary words in the box below to fill in the blanks in the sentences. Each word will be used once.

1. When all people have the same rights, there is _____________________________.

2. Everyone has ________________________________, or things we must do.

3. Beliefs people have about what they think is right are ______________________.

4. The Declaration of __________________________________ said the United States was separating from Great Britain to become its own country.

5. For a ______________________________ to work, the people must participate in the government.

6. The First Amendment to the Constitution gives people the __________________ to say what they want to say.

7. Responsible ______________________________ work to make America a better country.

8. Exercising your right to choose our leaders is an important ______________ value.

9. The Articles of ______________________________ were the first set of laws for the United States.

10. I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and __________________ for all.

**Vocabulary Terms**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Civic</th>
<th>Independence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democracy</td>
<td>Confederation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens</td>
<td>Equality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right</td>
<td>Values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice</td>
<td>Responsibilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wreaths Across America
Lesson Plan

Teacher: ____________________________ Date: ________________

Grades: 3rd & 4th

Lesson: Constitution Day September 17th

Name_______________________________

ANSWER KEY Constitution Day Vocabulary Worksheet
Directions: Use the vocabulary words in the box below to fill in the blanks in the sentences. Each word will be used once.

1. When all people have the same rights, there is **Equality**.

2. Everyone has **Responsibilities**, or things we must do.

3. Beliefs people have about what they think is right are **Values**.

4. The Declaration of **Independence** said the United States was separating from Great Britain to become its own country.

5. For a **Democracy** to work, the people must participate in the government.

6. The First Amendment to the Constitution gives people the **Right** to say what they want to say.

7. Responsible **Citizens** work to make America a better country.

8. Exercising your right to choose our leaders is an important **Civic** value.

9. The Articles of **Confederation** were the first set of laws for the United States.

10. I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God indivisible, with liberty and **Justice** for all.

Vocabulary Terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Civic</th>
<th>Independence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democracy</td>
<td>Confederation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens</td>
<td>Equality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right</td>
<td>Values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice</td>
<td>Responsibilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember-Honor-Teach
### Wreaths Across America
#### Lesson Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades:</th>
<th>Lesson:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd &amp; 4th</td>
<td>Constitution Day September 17th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Name ____________________________

**Comprehension Worksheet** *We the People, Civic Values in America*

**Directions:** Write a sentence in the space provided on what you learned about the topic from the book.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>WHAT I LEARNED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early American Leaders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declaration of Independence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States Constitution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible Citizens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Remember-Honor-Teach
The Preamble to the US Constitution

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.
Wreaths Across America
Lesson Plan

Teacher: 
Date: 
Grades: 3rd & 4th
Lesson: Constitution Day September 17th

The Preamble Scramble

We the People of the United States,
in Order to form a more perfect Union,
establish Justice,
insure domestic Tranquility,
provide for the common defense,
promote the general Welfare,
and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity,
do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.
Remember-Honor-Teach