

Curricula for K-12 Civics Education

Lesson Plan: Constitution Hall of Fame

Lesson Activity Steps: This lesson should be completed over a 2-week period per teacher discretion and student need.

Purpose	Teacher	Students
Hook Engage students	"Have you ever made up rules for a game and	Attend to a formal
	then found when playing, that the rules did	introduction.
5 minutes	not work well.	
	What kinds of problems did you have and	
	what did you do to fix the problems	Take notes as
	Did players disagree about how to fix or	needed
	change the rules?	
	How were disagreements settled?	
Into	Review the Articles of Confederation.	Take notes as
		needed.
Review Articles of	Discuss the shortcomings of the Articles.	
Confederation		
80 minutes	Discuss the Annapolis Convention and Shays's Rebellion.	
	Discus the Constitutional Convention and the	Students use
	Participants	history/social
		science text and/or
	Discuss the Debates and the Compromises at	other documents
	the Convention	provided on the
		Articles and the
	Discuss the purpose of the Constitution as	Conventions, check
	stated in the Preamble	and correct as a
		class for

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	Compare the powers and functions of three branches of government Discuss the struggle to get the Bill of Rights approved and explain the key rights that were guaranteed in the Bill of Rights	understanding
Through 60 minutes History Alive Simulations	Simulation of Constitutional situations that require action by branch (es)	Student teams will use constitutional power cards that decide governmental actions. Some situations will require the students
	Apply knowledge about the Bill of Rights to a shield that depicts a few illustrations of these rights	to place the power cards in a proper sequence that the government would act.
	Create a Hall of Fame that honors the constitution, the people and the events and ideas that were important to history.	Student teams will complete the shield and discuss as a
Constitution Hall of Fame 1- 2 weeks class time		team and then as a class for clear understanding.

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		Students will:
		1 page biography of
		constitutional writer
		1 minute oral
		presentation of their
		character highlights
		Come in Costume
		with props as
		needed and
		complete self
		reflection
		Teams will:
		Create Tableaus of
		an amendment in
		the Bill of Rights and
		perform in front of
		class
		Reflect on the group
		process
Daviand	Nort stops include:	North atoma implicate:
Beyond	Next steps include:	Next steps include:
	Lessons discussing a Constitutional democracy	Compare the powers
		granted to citizens,
		to the three
		branches of the
		federal government
		and to the states

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Special Needs of students are considered in this lesson: Students are put into flexible grouping scenarios that will benefit learning for all types of learners and special needs. Handson learning with plenty of opportunities for movement, verbal, written, and nonverbal expression, and multiple learning modalities are available within the context of this lesson.

Extension Ideas:

This lesson may be repeated with different amendments and or articles from the constitution. Students may want to investigate current events that could lead to amendments. Film the tableau's and use music, (after practicing with the technology and guidance with the use of music and props). Skits could be performed in the place of tableau with structure provided.

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