Lesson Title: The Responsibilities of Local Government

Assessment:

GRASPS

GOAL	Students create a constitution for a neighborhood park that contains the elements of the Bill of Rights. Students will defend their constitution and ratify it using the democratic process.
Role	Neighborhood committee and council members.
Audience	The city council and your neighbors.
Situation	At a city council meeting, a group of parents in the neighborhood are complaining of litter and graffiti in the local park. They are saying that that older kids from the middle school are hanging out and bullying younger kids. Pet owners are not picking up their pets' droppings. As a result, the city council has created a committee of neighbors, council members, and community members to create a constitution for the neighborhood park.
Performance	Students will have to create and present a constitution for the park that won't infringe on their democratic rights and present it to the city council members and neighbors. Students will also serve as neighborhood and community members to vote on the "fairness" on each group's constitution. We will ratify each constitution with a majority.
Standards for Success	Student's park constitution will reflect their understanding of the Bill of Rights within the Constitution as well as an understanding of the jurisdictions of local governments. Students will present their constitution at "city council meeting." They must be able to defend their document to city council members.

Quality Criteria:

Student documents should include a class written preamble as well as 5-10 rights and rules for park goers. The rules/rights must be constitutional and appropriate to the community that visits the park. Students must be able to defend their proposed law in front of the panel of students chosen to be city council.