

Name:

**American Government  
Project #1: Children's Book**

Each student will write a children's book about the Constitution. It can be a storybook, a coloring book, even a pop up book. Your choice. It is likely that you will use this book to teach the Constitution to a much younger child if it can be arranged!

Where can I get the Information? Chapter 3 in your text book  
study guides  
class instruction

Step one: Review the required outline below and generate a **plan** for how you want to **write** and **illustrate** the book.

Step two: Collect the needed materials. Some of the materials will be available in class and some you will need to find at home.

Step three: Begin drawing in PENCIL each of the pages that will make up the book. Keep in mind that you need to meet the basic requirements about the Constitution as listed below.

Two things to remember: a) You will need to figure out how to condense a great deal of information and explain it in basic terms. b) There will be some class time given to this project but most of it will be completed outside of class.

Requirements:

1. Each book must have a cover with a title. Use your imagination and create a title that will get the attention of an elementary student. Neatness counts. 5
2. Each book must have a table of contents 5
3. To help you organize this teaching tool, each book will be divided into the following chapters:

**Chapter 1: Outline of the Constitution**

1. What is a constitution? Why did the Framers feel it was necessary to write the US Constitution? Why is it so short? 5
2. What is the Preamble? 5
3. What are the seven numbered Articles and what do they describe? 5
4. Why was (is) it called a "living document?" 5

**Chapter 2: The Basic Principles of the Constitution. What are they and why are they important?**

- 1. Popular Sovereignty 5
- 2. Limited Government 5
- 3. Separation of Powers 5
- 4. Checks and Balances 5
- 5. Judicial Review 5
- 6. Federalism 5

**Chapter 3: The Amendment Process**

- 1. What is an Amendment and why was an amendment process included? 5
- 2. What is The Bill of Rights and why was it included? 10
- 3. How can an amendment be proposed and how can it be ratified? 5
- 4. Use these examples to show additional amendments to the Constitution: 10
  - Amendments 12
  - Amendments 13, 14, 15
  - Amendment 22
  - Amendment 26

**Chapter 4: How the Constitution changes in other ways**

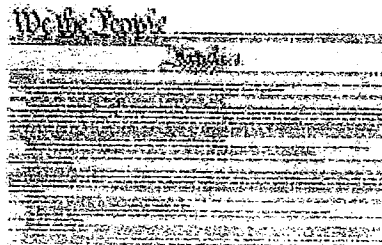
- 1. Explain how the Constitution can change other than through formal amendments. 5

**Chapter 5: Your conclusion:**

- 1. Why is it important to study and understand the Constitution of the United States? 10

**EXTRA CREDIT:** Use the Mayflower Compact and the ideas of John Locke accurately and not only will Mr. Berry be exceedingly happy (always a good thing), but he is likely to add several points to your final assessment! +10!

*The Constitution*



Date Due: Tuesday, Oct 2, 2007