



Produced by the Calico Rock Community Foundation

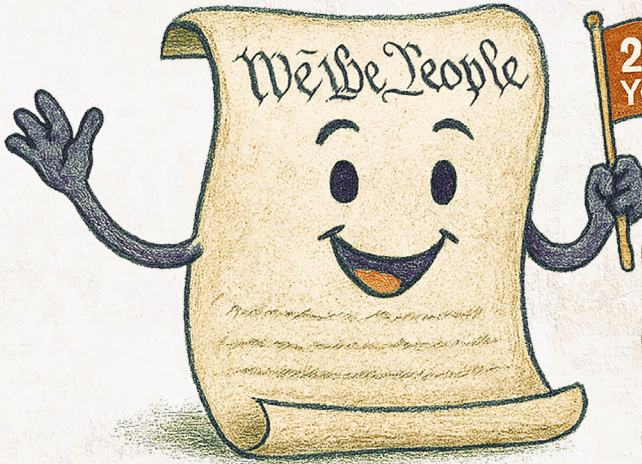
Meet the U.S. Constitution!



Celebrating 250 Years of America

A beginner's guide to the rules that define our country

THE **GENIUS** RULEBOOK FOR America – 250 Years Strong!



Fun Facts:

The Constitution has only 4 pages—but it built a whole country!

It's the oldest written national constitution still in use!

The U.S. Constitution is the supreme law of the land. That means it's the top set of rules for how our country runs. It creates the government and protects our rights. This year, we're celebrating 250 years of America—and the Constitution has been helping guide us through most of them!

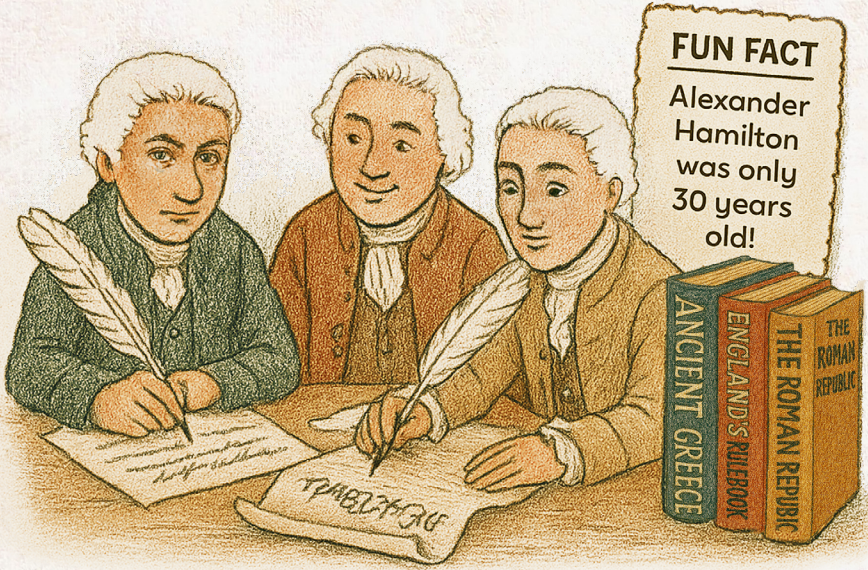
THE EAGLE:

Strong and free,
with wings spread
wide,
The eagle soars
with noble pride.
Our nation's bird,
both brave and
true,
Stands for the
rights of me and
you.



Meet the Founders

Young Minds with Big Ideas



They might look old in the paintings—but many of the Constitution's writers were actually young, some just in their 20s and 30s! They were smart, curious, and passionate about building a better future.

They studied the ideas of freedom, fairness, and government from

history books and great thinkers before them. They believed people should have rights, and that no one should have too much power.

They didn't all agree—but they worked hard together to create a set of rules that would help America stay strong and free.

ACTIVITY: "Founders' Library"

Design a cover for a book on the next page about something the Founders might have studied.



Design your own book cover here!



IDEAS:

What did the Founders read?

What big idea will your book teach?

Draw a title, add pictures, and make it powerful.

Make it look like a book from long ago—or one from the future!

Founder Name Search

Can you find the last names of 10 Founding Fathers who helped shape the Constitution?

R Q M I P G D K E Y H G F I N D D L C X
Z M C R F R K U A L L M R F M A J J M S
J O A E W F P G L O W J S J A A Y Y H I
N R V Z C Y J Q M Z C P I Q D J G G A Q
N R B R W M J W Q N O K L W I Z G T M B
P I C N R U K Y Z K N D W F S K S I I L
Z S W A S H I N G T O N I R O V F C L Q
C E Q V B Y T D Z S D I D C N T T R T A
V C T I X Y Q R I Y Z X L B K I Z R O P
W M C Y K P P I N C K N E Y X I F H N M
R V S T G A G M J W F V R D Q I N H R O
H S W C G T D O F R A N K L I N R S B X
Q G Y W Y E K K M Z N O L T A C I H O L
P R U Z Y R T N O E M H S O C R W A N N
O L U P G S V V P K W L B H J Q Q P Q U
O E I Z Q O N F Y I D G L L E G D R Z C
C E H K S N O Y H Z B V D T K R Y L P U
Z O C A R A D I I Q M S S P D A M Y W C
D K U Z M C L R K J P M E J G U S A R W
I T K X E G N I S N Z Z J C L Z Y W N B

FOUNDER LAST NAMES:

Washington

Dickinson

Hamilton

Franklin

Paterson

Pinckney

Sherman

Morris

Madison

**Learn the
Preamble with
Music!**



Scan to watch
"Schoolhouse Rock:
The Preamble"

Bonus: Which founder helped write the Preamble?

“We the People!”

It starts with the famous words: “We the People” — because the people are in charge!



The Preamble explains why the Constitution was written. It says the government should:

- Make fair laws (justice)
- Keep things peaceful (domestic tranquility)
- Protect our freedom (liberty)

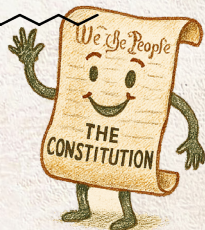
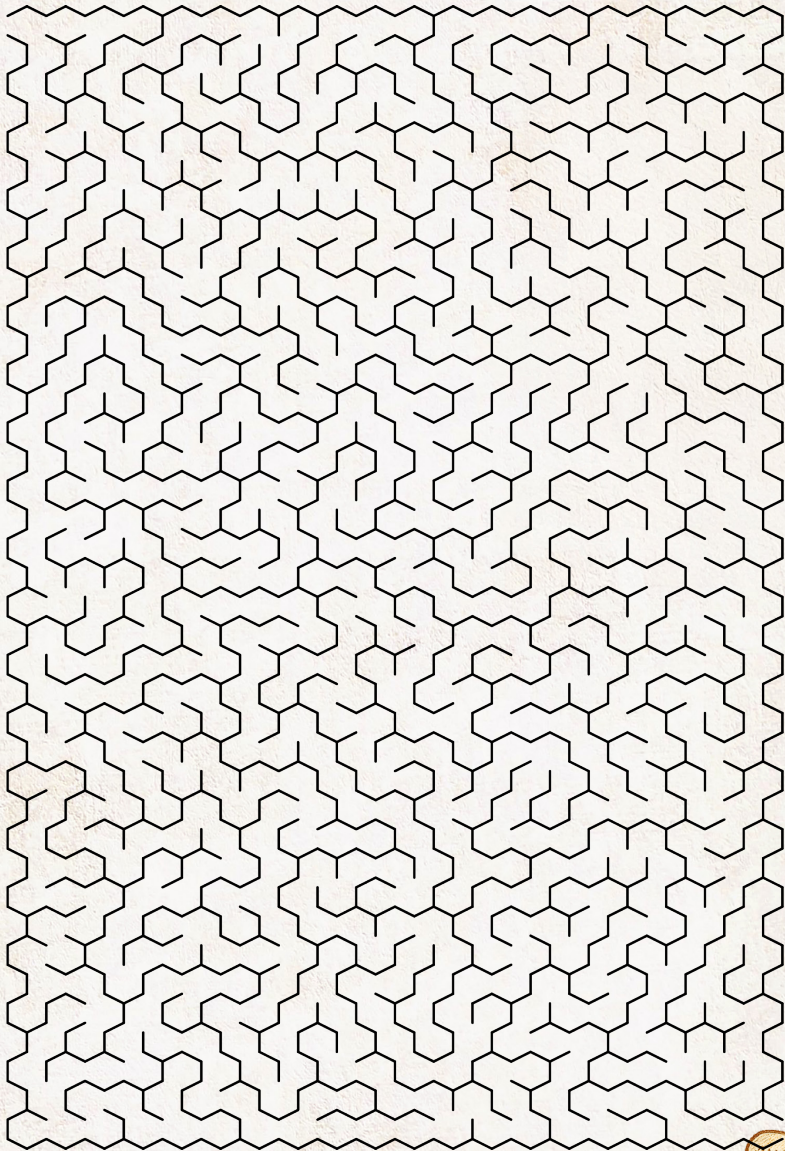
ACTIVITY:

“We the People”

Trace your handprint and write one way you can help your school or community inside it.

Find your way through the **MAZE**
to the Constitution

START



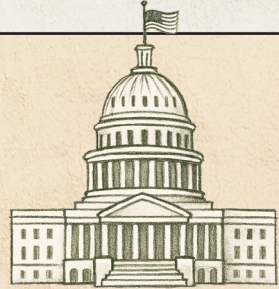
ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION

How the Government Works

Article I - Legislative Branch

Congress makes the laws.

They decide how the government spends money. It's split into the Senate and House of Representatives.



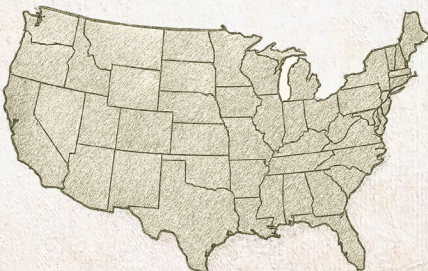
Article II - Executive Branch

The President leads this branch, carries out laws, and signs or vetoes bills passed by Congress.



Article III - Judicial Branch

The Supreme Court and other courts decide if laws are fair and follow the Constitution.



Article IV

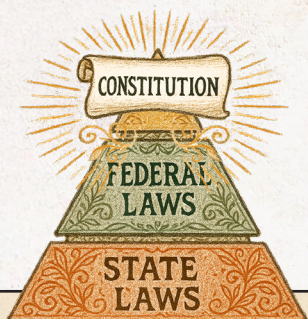
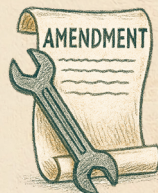
States Respect Each

Other States must honor each other's laws and work together.

ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION

Article V - Changing the Constitution

This article explains how the Constitution can be updated (called an “amendment”).



Article VI - Supreme Law

The Constitution is the highest law—no other laws can go against it.

Article VII - Getting Started

This part explains how the Constitution was accepted (ratified) in 1787.



Activity: Branch Match!



Instructions: Read each action and decide which branch of government it belongs to. Write Legislative, Executive, or Judicial on the line.

Bonus: Circle which branch you'd like to join and why.

Signs a bill into law → _____

Decides if a law is fair → _____

Makes the country's budget → _____

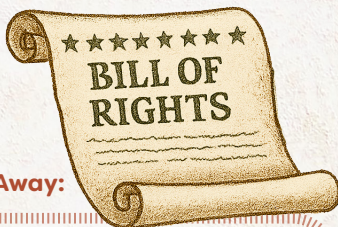
Carries out the laws → _____

Declares a law unconstitutional → _____

Writes new laws → _____

Your Rights, Protected!

There are 27 amendments, or changes, to the Constitution. The first 10 are called the Bill of Rights. These protect your freedoms!



Some Amendments You'll Recognize Right Away:



1st: Say what you believe



6th: Get a fair and fast trial



2nd: Defend yourself



7th: Juries can decide money disputes



3rd: You don't have to have soldiers live in your house



8th: No cruel punishments



4th: Be safe in your home



9th: You have more rights than just these



5th: Stay silent if needed



10th: States get their own powers

Other important amendments protect things like fair punishment, being treated equally, and limiting government power.

Rule or Right? Look at each statement and decide if it's a rule to follow or a right to enjoy.

Rule Right

You have to follow your school's dress code

☐☐

You have to drive at the speed limit

☐☐

You must put on your seat belt in the car

☐☐

You can speak your mind

☐☐

You can choose your religion

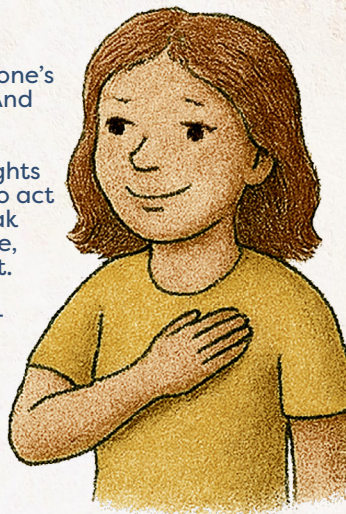
☐☐

Freedom Comes with *Great Responsibility*

The Constitution is more than a rulebook—it's a promise to treat each other fairly, protect everyone's rights, and keep our country working together. And that promise includes you.

Having rights is a big deal. But keeping those rights strong takes something even bigger: people who act with care, honesty, and courage. When you speak up for fairness, follow rules that protect everyone, and help your community, you're doing your part.

Because freedom isn't just about what you get—it's also about what you give.



Ask your family:

What's one promise we can each make to help our country stay strong and fair?

Rule or Right? – Answer Key:

You have to follow your school's dress code → Rule

You have to drive at the speed limit → Rule

You must put on your seat belt in the car → Rule

You can speak your mind → Right

You can choose your religion → Right

Branch Match! – Answer Key:

Signs a bill into law → Executive

Decides if a law is fair → Judicial

Makes the country's budget → Legislative

Carries out the laws → Executive

Declares a law unconstitutional → Judicial

Writes new laws → Legislative



Scan to visit the Interactive Constitution

Play games, watch videos,
and discover more about
your rights & responsibilities!



About This Booklet

This booklet was written and designed by Industrial Art & Design, LLC for the Calico Rock Community Foundation, in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the United States Constitution.

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