





# WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- ✓ 10 SHORT PASSAGES
- ✓ 10 QUESTION TRAILS
- ✓ RECORDING SHEET
- ✓ ANSWER KEY
- ✓ STUDENT DIRECTIONS
- ✓ TEACHER DIRECTIONS
- ✓ EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

**1** The United States Constitution is a document that states how the federal government should operate. It outlines what the federal government can do, as well as what the federal (national) government

**3** The Constitution created a federal government that could operate without impacting the basic rights of the citizens. At the Constitutional Convention, the writers decided that the government needed three branches to operate to create a balance of power. Each branch has a clear purpose, but none can become too powerful. This was very important to Americans at the time. They had just broken away from the tight rule of the British government. The three branches include the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Branch.

What is the opening part or introduction to the Constitution called? **CODE WORD**

**5** The U.S. had a document before the Constitution called the Articles of Confederation. The Articles of Confederation was ratified (approved) in 1781 but had major problems. The Articles did not allow the government to

**7** The Constitution, meaning plan of government, is the most important document in the history of the United States. Before the Constitution, each of the states operated like individual countries. There was not a strong federal government to hold them all together. There was not even a president. The Constitution created a federal government that allowed the states to operate together, as well as partly on their own.

What topic does Article VII address? **CODE WORD**

**9** The opening part (or Preamble) of the Constitution is called the Preamble. It was written by a group of educated men in America who outlined basic rights for all citizens to protect the citizens of the best way possible. It made sure that the government was with the citizens, not without them. The Preamble is a summary of how the government can operate and how the citizens

What word means chief or leader in the Constitution?

**10** The Constitution is

### TEACHER DIRECTIONS

THIS SCAVENGER HUNT HAS TWO PARTS:

**Part 1:** Kids will read 10 short passages which will give them a "clue" or code word. After finishing each passage, students will need to write them down on the recording sheet.

**Part 2:** Using the code word on each reading card, students will need to unscramble the letters in the gray boxes to find the code word.

All you have to do is print the 10 reading cards and hide them! The more difficult the reading cards, the more FUN the kids have AND the longer they will be able to play!

You will need to print **PAGE 10** for EVERY student.

### ANSWER SHEET

If the answer is more than one word, do NOT leave a space between words. FOUND CARD #

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	FOUND CARD #
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
8											
9											
10											

FINAL CODE ANSWER:

### VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Directions: Choose 5 words from the reading cards that are unfamiliar or new to you.

WORD	DEFINITION

### SUMMARIZE

TOPIC SENTENCE

SUPPORTING DETAIL SUPPORTING DETAIL SUPPORTING DETAIL

### 4 DIGIT CODE

Next, using the numbers in the FOUND column in the SAME order in which you recorded them above, follow these clues.

Eliminate the highest and lowest number in the FOUND column.

Get rid of all numbers that are spelled with just one letter.

Eliminate numbers that start with the letter \_\_\_\_\_.

FINAL CODE

4 numbers remain (in order you listed them)?



# 10 READING CARDS

**1** The United States Constitution is a document that states how the federal government should operate. It outlines what the federal (national) government can do, and what the federal (national) government cannot do. The U.S. Constitution is organized into seven main parts called Articles. The U.S. Constitution is the oldest government document that is still in use today.

➔ The Constitution is organized into how many articles?

**3** The Constitution created a federal government that was designed to operate without impacting the basic rights of the citizens. The Constitution was drafted by the writers who decided that the government should be organized into three branches to operate and share the power. Each branch has a clear role, but none can become too powerful. This was very important to Americans at the time. They had just broken away from the tight rule of the British government. The three branches include the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Branch.

➔ What is the opening part or introduction to the Constitution called?

**5** The U.S. had a document before the Constitution called the Articles of Confederation. The Articles of Confederation was ratified (approved) in 1781 but had major problems. The Articles did not allow the government to collect money. In turn, the government did not have any money to operate. In 1787, this issue and others were discussed at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. Here, the Constitution was drafted to replace the Articles of Confederation.

➔ Americans had just broken away from the tight rule of the \_\_\_ government.

**2** The Constitution also has an amendment process. An amendment means that there is a change or addition to the Constitution. There have been 27 amendments to the Constitution since it was drafted. The first 10 amendments came in 1791, called the Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights protects certain freedoms of the citizens.

**4** When the Constitution was approved, many states still had concerns about the freedoms of the citizens. So, James Madison, the Father of the Constitution, wrote the Bill of Rights. This was a solution to keep the Constitution by outlining clearly the freedoms of the citizens.

After 9 of 13 states approved the document, the signing of the Constitution occurred on September 17, 1787. At the age of 81, Benjamin Franklin was the oldest delegate to sign the United States Constitution.

**7** The Constitution, meaning the basic laws of the government, is the most important document in the history of the United States. Each of the 50 states and the federal government have their own individual governments. There was a President. The Constitution allowed the federal government to operate together, but each state can still operate on their own.

➔ What does Article VII address?

The opening part (introduction) of the Constitution is called the Preamble. It was written by some of the most educated men in America at the time. It outlined basic rights for all Americans and protect the citizens of the United States in the best way possible. It made sure that the government was with the citizens, not with a government. The Preamble is a summary of how the government can operate and how the citizens will be protected.

➔ What word means change or addition to the Constitution?

**8** Article I discusses the purpose of the legislative branch in detail. The document is important because it protects the freedoms and rights of the citizens. It outlines the powers and rights for all Americans. The Constitution is organized into seven main parts called Articles. The U.S. Constitution is the oldest government document that is still in use today.

➔ The Articles of Confederation was ratified (approved) in 1781.

**10** The Constitution is organized into sections, or articles, that describe how the government is run. These include Legislative Powers, Executive Powers, Judicial Powers, States' Powers and Limits, American Federal Powers, with the last article (Article VII) covering Ratification.

➔ What is another word for federal?

## ANSWER SHEET

If the answer is more than one word, do NOT leave a space between words.

FOUND CARD #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

FINAL WORD ANSWER: \_\_\_\_\_

## 4 DIGIT CODE

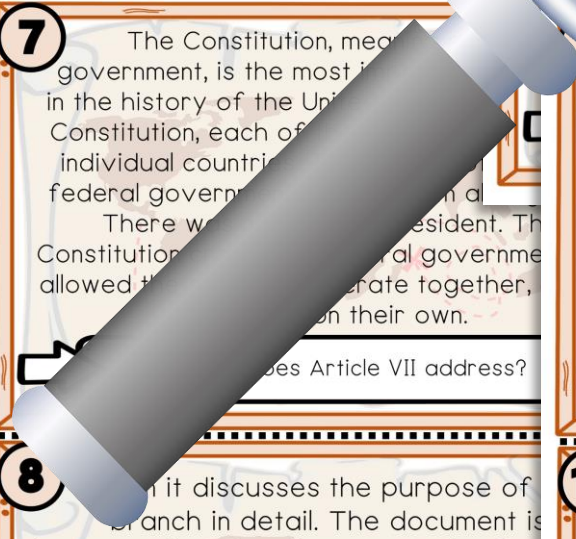
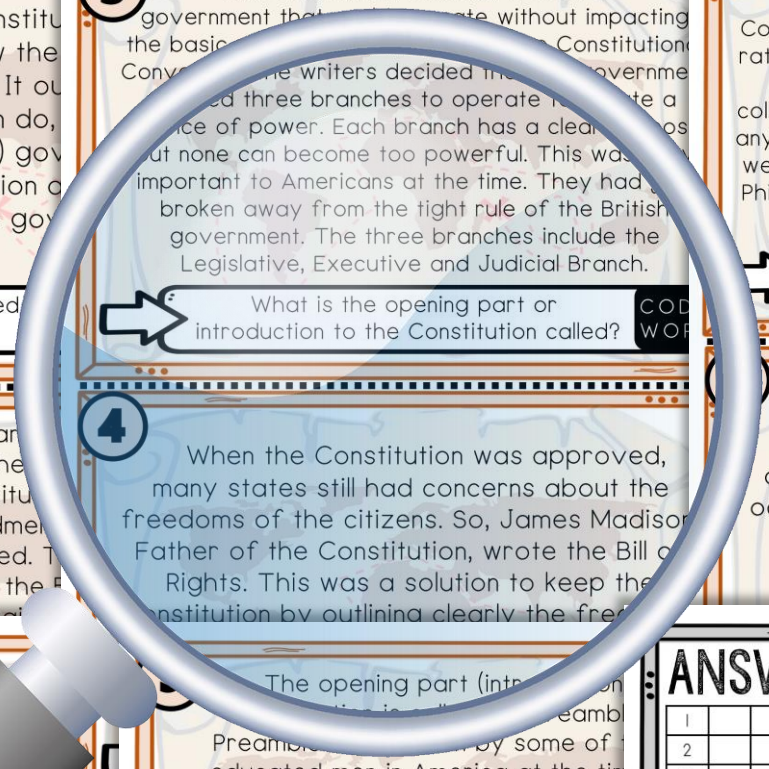
Eliminate the numbers that do not follow the clues.

Get the number of digits and the order you need to follow the clues.

Eliminate the numbers that do not follow the clues.

FINAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_



What 4 numbers do you have in the order you need to follow the clues?





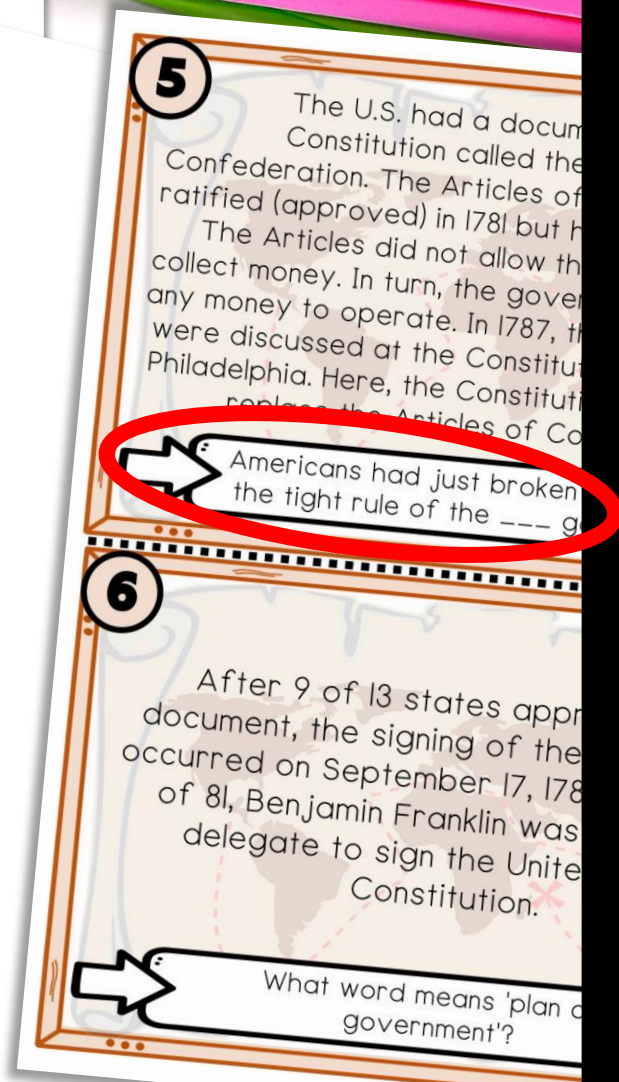


# HOW IT WORKS



## ENGAGING READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE!

- 1 Students work individually (or in pairs) and visit 10 reading cards scattered around the room.
- 2 Students read the passage and look at the question at the bottom labeled "code word".
- 3 The code word for THAT card number will lead them to a different card. But here's the catch... students will NOT know where to find the code word answer so they will have to skim, browse and revisit the reading cards several times to find the answer they are seeking.





# COMBINATION



**This scavenger hunt is a winning combination of:**

- movement**
- close reading**
- comprehension skills**
- mystery words & codes**
- citing evidence**
- critical thinking**

**Everything a teacher dreams of wrapped up into one FUN and engaging activity!**

# OPTIONS



THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!

-  ANTICIPATORY SETS
-  EARLY FINISHERS
-  STATIONS
-  SUB PLANS
-  PARTNER WORK
-  ENRICHMENT

-  MOVEMENT
-  CROSS-CURRICULAR
-  HIGHLY ENGAGING

