

## Suggested Activities for Constitution Day—September 16<sup>th</sup>

### General Resources

For some of the following activities, you might find it useful to have students refer to the actual Constitution. Visit the **National Archives** at <http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution.html>.

### Activities for Grades 11–12

Comparing a draft of the Constitution's Preamble to the final version, students respond to various prompts through an online discussion or short essay. Access **We the People** from the National Archives at <https://www.docsteach.org/activities/teacher/we-the-people>. *Tip:* This site works best in Chrome.

Students compare and contrast the backgrounds and viewpoints of two or more Founding Fathers through an online discussion or short essay. Research **America's Founding Fathers** from the National Archives at [http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution\\_founding\\_fathers.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution_founding_fathers.html).

Students watch a video to learn about the process of ratifying the Constitution. Then they write a short informational essay about the documents discussed in the video. Watch **The U.S. Constitution at the National Archives** from the National Archives at <http://www.archives.gov/calendar/constitution-day/>.

Students take a virtual field trip to the "Amending America" exhibit at the National Archives. Then they write a short persuasive essay convincing others to visit the exhibit. Visit the **"Amending America" Exhibit** from the National Archives at <http://www.archives.gov/calendar/constitution-day/>.

Students watch a short animated video to learn about the process to amend the U.S. Constitution. Then they write a short informational essay describing the amendment process. Watch **Amending America: How Do We Amend?** from the National Archives at <http://www.archives.gov/calendar/constitution-day/>.

Students learn the fundamentals of the U.S. Constitution and the basics of the government it established. Explore **Learning Adventures: U.S. Constitution 1789** from the U.S. Government Publishing Office at <https://bensguide.gpo.gov/>. Click Master and then The U.S. Constitution: 1789 for more information about one of our founding documents.

Students play an online board game to test their knowledge of the Constitution and American History. Choose **Constitution Board Game** from Texas Law Related Education (division of the Texas State Bar) at <https://www.texaslre.org/games/>.

A series of seven short (under five minutes) videos illustrate the principles on which the Constitution is based. With additional online research, students can find current event examples of these principles in action today and share in an online discussion or short informational essay. Watch **Liam Learns** from Texas Law Related Education (division of the Texas State Bar) at <http://www.texaslre.org/liamlearns/>.