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News-2-You

September 13, 2010

What?

Constitution Day

America is celebrating Constitution Day on September 17. (Constitution Day, also called Citizenship Day, is part of Constitution Week, celebrated September 12 – 18 in 2010.)

The U.S. Constitution was signed that day in 1787.

What is a Constitution?

A Constitution gives the rules for a country.

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News Page

When you play a game you must follow rules.

Rules tell people what is right or wrong.

Good rules bring: fairness, peace and fewer problems.

Countries have rules too, called laws.

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News Page

In 1776, America became a new country.

Each state made its own laws.

Sometimes state laws were not fair.

The states needed to work together.

All the states needed the same laws.

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News Page

In May 1787, America had a Constitutional Convention.

State leaders met in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

James Madison of Virginia was the first to arrive.

Our first president, George Washington, came too.

But soon, problems began.

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News Page

At first, the leaders did not agree on the new laws.

Then, they started to work together.

The leaders listened and shared ideas for four months.

They decided which ideas were best for America.

The leaders signed a new Constitution on September 17, 1787.

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News Page

America's Constitution is the oldest in the world. (Canada's Constitution, signed in 1982, is one of the world's newest)

The Constitution has guided America for 223 years.

We are thankful the leaders worked together.

They gave America very good laws!

We saluted those first leaders on Constitution Day.

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News Page

Americans are proud of their Constitution.

How can Americans celebrate this special day?

Fly an American flag and learn about America's first.

Celebrate the day by making: a "Classroom Constitution," a Constitution poster and more. (Pages 12 and 13 have a Classroom Constitution to guide you. Download a poster contest entry form and get more activity ideas at:

<http://govdocs4children.pbworks.com/Celebrate-Constitution-Day-with-us!>)

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People in the News

Who?

James Madison (1751-1836)

James Madison is called the Father of the Constitution.

He wrote most of the U.S. Constitution.

James had many ideas to make America better.

Later, James wrote letters to newspapers.

He told Americans why the new rules were good.

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People in the news

James Madison was born in Port Conway, Virginia.

He graduated from Princeton University and became a lawyer.

James wanted to help America's new government.

James had many important government jobs.

He was the fourth president of the U.S. (1809 – 1817)

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Places in the News

Where?

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Philadelphia is in south – eastern Pennsylvania.

The name Philadelphia means “brotherly love”.

Philadelphia is called the Birthplace of America.

Philadelphia is the most important city in colonial America.

It was the American capital before Washington, D.C.

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Places in the News

Today, Philadelphia is America's fifth largest city.

People like to visit Philadelphia's many historic sites.

Every year, two million tourists see Philadelphia's Liberty Bell.

City sports teams include the: Phillies (baseball), 76ers (basketball), Eagles (football) and flyers (hockey) and more.

Page 12

Extra Extra

A Classroom Constitution

Complete the Constitution with rules you and your classmates or friends have decided and voted on.

When everyone agrees to the Classroom Constitution, sign your names on the next page)

Page 13

Extra Extra

Signature page for your Classroom Constitution.

Page 14

Recipe Page

James Jigglers

Snack

Serves Eight

Need:

3 ounce package red gelatin, prepared and cut onto small squares

3 ounce package blue gelatin, prepared and cut onto small squares

8 ounces whipped topping, thawed

8 maraschino cherries

8 dessert cups

Large spoon

8 spoons

1. Cover bottoms of each dessert cup with whipped topping.
2. Put a spoonful of red gelatin in each cup.
3. Add whipped topping to each cup.
4. Put a spoonful of blue gelatin in each cup.
5. Add whipped topping to each cup
6. Top each cup with a cherry. Eat.

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Joke Page

Knock, Knock

Who's there?

History

History who?

History is a good one.

His - story

Page 16

Game Page

Choose the words not about Driving Around the World

James Madison

Balloon

Right  
Rule/ law  
Sign  
Capital  
Earth  
Idea  
Gulf of Mexico  
America  
Fair  
President  
State  
Liberty Bell  
Constitution  
Book  
Leader  
Space  
Problems  
convention

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Use each word below in a complete sentence.

Peace  
America  
Problems  
Capital  
Leader  
Constitution  
Fair  
Idea  
Rule/ law  
State

Review Page

1. What is the paper about?
  - a. Constitution Day
  - b. Oil Spill
  - c. Driving Around the World
2. What is America celebrating on September 17?
  - a. Constitution Day
  - b. President's Day
  - c. Independence Day
3. What do good rules bring?
  - a. Good weather
  - b. Disagreements
  - c. Fairness
4. What do countries call rules?
  - a. Mail
  - b. Laws
  - c. Clues
5. What did all the states need to do?
  - a. Work together
  - b. Exercise
  - c. Raise taxes
6. Who arrived first at the Constitutional Convention
  - a. George Washington
  - b. Benjamin Franklin
  - c. James Madison
7. What did American leaders do in September 17, 1787?
  - a. Choose a capital city
  - b. Quit and went home
  - c. Signed the Constitution
8. How can you celebrate Constitution Day?
  - a. Learn about German leaders
  - b. Fly a NASCAR flag
  - c. Make a Constitution poster

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Use the words below to complete the sentences.

Constitution

Aerica

Leaders

Country

James

State

Rules

Work

Flag

Each ? made its own laws.

James had many ideas to make ? better .

? had many important government jobs

The ? has guided America for 223 years.

? tell people with is right or wrong.

Fly an American ? and learn about America's leaders/

At first, ? did not agree on the new laws.

The states needed to ? together.

A Constitution gives the rules for a ? .

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Think Page

1. Why did leaders need to make new rules?
2. Why does a country need good leaders?
3. Why might a family write a Constitution?
4. Draw a picture of the American flag.

Page 21

Sports Page

Reno Air Races

Men and women run foot races

Horses boats and cars have races.

Airplanes race too, and a big air race is in Nevada.

The 47<sup>th</sup> National Championship Air race is coming.

The race is from September 15 – 19 at Reno's Stead Field.

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Sports Page

Each aircraft is put into a racing class. (Biplane, Formula One, Sport, Super Sport, T-6, Jet or Unlimited Class)

Each aircraft flies around the airfield.

Many aircraft fly faster than 500 miles per hour.

The pilots follow three rules: fly low, go fast and turn left.

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Words page

Constitution

Rule/ law

America

Leader

Capital

Peace

Fair

Sign

Idea

Liberty Bell

States

Convention