

A More Perfect Union Drawing Activity

Lesson Plan: K-3

Overview

Using art, students will explore the purposes of the Constitution and their role in carrying out the vision of the Framers crafting the Constitution.

Suggested Time Needed

90 minutes

Learning Objectives

After completing this activity, students will:

- Have a greater understanding of the purpose of the Constitution as stated in the Preamble.
- Reflect on their own role in carrying out that vision
- Develop an understanding of character traits that correspond with civic responsibilities.
- Use artistic media to relate their understanding and experiences to create art.

Guiding Questions

- What is a Preamble and what does it tell us about our Constitution?
- How do our actions help fulfill that promise?
- What character traits help us make choices to fulfill the promise?

Missouri Grade Level and Course Level Expectations

- K-3.VA.10.A – Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art
- K-3.PC.1.D - Explain the role of citizens and governments in carrying out constitutional principles
- K-3.PC.1.E – Describe the character traits and civic attitudes of significant individuals.

Materials Needed

- [*The United States Constitution*](#)
- [*Schoolhouse Rock: The Preamble*](#)
- A: The Preamble Analysis



- B: The Preamble Analysis – Suggested Answers
- C: A More Perfect Union
- Coloring materials

Procedure:

1. Gather students together for a class discussion. Explain that they will be learning about the Constitution today. Display [the Constitution](#) and read the Preamble out loud.
2. Explain that Preamble is another way of saying introduction. This is just the first part of the Constitution that tells all of us what we want the Constitution to do. Even though the words are long and hard to understand, we are going to learn about them today.
3. Display A: The Preamble Analysis or create your own version on chart paper. For each clause tell the students what it means in plain words. Ask them to think about who is responsible for making it happen. What character traits are needed to make sure that it happens? Answers will vary, but B: The Preamble Analysis-Suggested Answers proposed some prompts to guide the discussion.
4. After your chart is filled, show the class [Schoolhouse Rock: The Preamble](#). Ask them to watch carefully for pictures of people doing the things. Were there any images that we didn't think of that we could add to the list? Ask what kids might be able to do to help.
5. It's time to draw! Give each student a blank piece of paper, or a copy of C: A More Perfect Union. Explain that they will each draw what our country looks like if everyone works toward the goals of the Preamble. They should draw at least one image for each clause and fill their pages with color.



A: The Preamble Analysis-Blank

The Constitution	In plain words	Who does this and what character traits do they show?
We the People of the United States,		
in order to form a more perfect union,		
establish Justice,		
insure domestic Tranquility,		
provide for the common defense,		
promote the general Welfare,		
And secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity,		
do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.		



B: The Preamble Analysis-Suggested Answers

The Constitution	In plain words	Who does this and what character traits do they show?
We the People of the United States,	All of us who live in the United States want	Citizens who are responsible: vote, pay taxes, show up for jury duty, pay attention to the news
in order to form a more perfect union,	to make our country even better	All of us who make choices that make our world better
establish Justice,	things to be fair for everyone	Judges who are fair and lawyers who fight hard for their clients
insure domestic Tranquility,	peace in our homes and neighborhoods	Police officers/ firefighters/ EMTs who are calm and show up when there is an emergency
provide for the common defense,	to be safe from anyone who wants to hurt us	Soldiers who are brave and protect our country
promote the general Welfare,	for everyone to have what they need to be healthy	doctors, nurses, scientists who help us make choices that are healthy for our minds and bodies
And secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity,	to make sure that we have freedom now and in the future	teachers and parents who are patient and teach us about how important our freedoms are and how to be responsible
do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.	so we made this agreement about the rules and responsibilities that we will all live by.	

A More Perfect Union



Name: _____