



Unit One

Unit Title: Foundations of US Government

Government

Unit Length and Description:

7 weeks

Students learn about different types of government and explore how the US government developed into a constitutional federal republic.

Standards:

Standard 1: Foundations of American Government

C.1.1	Describe reasons why government is necessary, explaining competing ideas about the role of government in society
C.1.2	Compare and contrast the structure and leadership of different forms of government in various nations
C.1.3	Analyze the influence of the Magna Carta, English common law, and the English Bill of Rights in creating a limited form of government in the United States
C.1.4	Explain the influence of Enlightenment philosophers, the Great Awakening, and the American Revolution on the American founding documents
C.1.5	Explain the issues involved in various compromises or plans leading to the creation of the United States Constitution
C.1.6	Analyze the underlying principles and concepts embodied in primary documents that influenced the creation of the United States Constitution

Standard 2: Structure and Purpose of Government

C.2.6	Differentiate between loose and strict constructionist interpretation of the Constitution by examining the meaning and implications of the Bill of Rights and subsequent amendments
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Enduring Understandings- Compelling Question:

Did the Founding Fathers make the best choices for the United States?

Essential Questions- Supporting Question:

- Why do societies create governments?
- Upon what historical precedents did the Founding Fathers draw their influences?
- To what extent were the Founding Fathers influenced by the principles found in other governmental documents?
- How did we get our government?
- To what extent did the amendments play within developing the Constitution?

- How should the Constitution be interpreted?