Guided Reading

THE CONSTITUTION
Lesson 3 The Structure of the Constitution

Essential Question
Why do people create, structure, and change governments?

The Parts of the Constitution

Explaining The Preamble sets down six purposes of government. Match each quotation from the Preamble with its purpose from the list below.

a. to maintain peace and order in society
b. to help people live healthy, happy, and prosperous lives
c. to unite the states so they can operate as a single nation
d. to protect the rights of citizens and of future generations
e. to make certain that all citizens are treated equally
f. to protect the country and its citizens from attack

1. "To form a more perfect Union"
2. "To establish Justice"
3. "To insure domestic Tranquility"
4. "To provide for the common defense"
5. "To promote the general Welfare"
6. "To secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity"
7. **Identifying** Describe the purpose behind each of the seven articles of the Constitution.

a. Article I

b. Article II

c. Article III

d. Article IV

e. Article V

f. Article VI

g. Article VII
Amending and Interpreting the Constitution
As supreme law of the land, the constitution had to be able to change with the times. However, the Framers could not make it too easy to amend. That might upset the careful balance of powers that was detailed within it.

8. **Listing** Name the two ways for proposing an amendment to the Constitution. Then name the two ways to ratify an amendment.

9. **Defining** Explain the meaning of each term.

   a. necessary and proper clause
   
   b. implied powers
   
   c. loose interpretation
   
   d. strict interpretation
Guided Reading

THE CONSTITUTION
Lesson 4 Principles of the Constitution

Essential Question
Why do people create, structure, and change governments?

Major Principles of Government
The Constitution is based on five basic principles. These beliefs are the basis for all that is contained in the document. They are the values upon which our nation stands.

10. Identify Which principle of government says that the power of government lies with the people?

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11. Defining Write the definition of limited government.

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12. Defining Write the definition of rule of law.

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13. Applying What idea of Baron de Montesquieu can be found in the Constitution? Explain how it works and tell why the Framers thought it was important.

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14. **Inferring** Why does the Constitution include a system of checks and balances?

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**Federalism**

National and state governments share power under our system of federalism. Both the state and the national governments can enact laws.

15. **Comparing** In the space provided, explain which level of government holds each of the powers.

a. **Enumerated Powers:** ________________________________

b. **Concurrent Powers:** ________________________________

c. **Expressed Powers:** ________________________________

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16. **Explaining** What is the purpose of the supremacy clause in the Constitution?

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17. **Analyzing** What elements of the Constitution have helped it work so well for over 200 years?

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