Constitution Day

The Constitution Game

Lesson Plans

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View PowerPoint with class!

Objective: To describe how the members of the constitutional convention might have felt as they gathered and began the arduous task of writing the US Constitution.

Materials:

* 1 Die
* 12 paper clips
* The following rhymed instructions:

READ:  **It’s time to play a little game.**

**No two groups will play the same.**

**What and how is up to you.**

**The group must choose what it will do.**

**Use the things that you find here.**

**It won’t take long; you need not fear.**

**In six short minutes you’ll share your fame**

**By telling how you played your game.**

Procedure:

1. Arrange students into groups of Four and Five.
2. Distribute one prepared envelope to each group with all of the materials.
3. Instruct students to follow the instructions contained in the envelope. Cause them to remember how they feel as they follow the instructions.
4. Start the game.
5. Give the student have 6 minutes.
6. Stop the game.
7. Ask spokesperson from each group to describe the game they have made, and how they felt as they played.
8. List the response on board.
9. After all groups have reported, begin describing the Constitutional Convention: In May of 1787, outstand citizens from 12 states gathered in Philadelphia. They planned to be there only a little while. They had come to improve the Articles of Confederation and try to create more unity and cooperation among the states. Rhode Island sent no representatives. How did those men fell that May?

Today, you used 12 paper clips. They represent the patriots who came form the 12 states. The die represents luck and each day that rolled around from May 25-Sept 17. You figured out how to play the game. They figured out how to write our Constitution. And while they went about the great task of writing the US Constitution, they probably felt much the same as you did today.

10. Exit ticket