Brunswick School Department Grade 8 A New Nation Begins

Essential Understandings	 Free from colonial tyranny, the people formed a government that would satisfy both state and national interests.
Essential Questions	 What were the challenges faced by the new nation? What were the accomplishments of the new nation? What were the basic principles stated in the Constitution of the US and the Bill of Rights?
Essential Knowledge	 The Articles of Confederation limited the effectiveness of the national government. Principles of the Constitution include: popular sovereignty, limited government, separation of powers, checks and balances, and federalism. The Bill of Rights provides a written guarantee of individual rights. Different views of government lead to the establishment of political parties. Key features of early presidencies include: George Washington: first cabinet, federal court system John Adams: two-party system, XYZ Affair Thomas Jefferson: Louisiana Purchase, Embargo Act James Madison: War of 1812 James Monroe: Monroe Doctrine The Constitution's principles are still applied today. A bill goes through various stages before it becomes a law. The Constitution gives the executive branch and the legislative branch the power to interact with foreign governments.
Vocabulary	 Terms: precedent, cabinet, bond, national debt, tariff, protective tariff, continental divide, legislative, executive, judicial, veto, bicameral, compromise, justice, domestic tranquility, general welfare, liberty, representative government, ratify, tyranny, federal, override, bill, law, unconstitutional, amendment, judicial review, appropriate, impeach, due process

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	 Explain the weaknesses of the <u>Articles of Confederation</u> through graphic representation
Essential	 graphic representation. Explain and distinguish among the five principles of the Constitution. Describe the responsibilities of a citizen. Describe the process of how a bill becomes a law. Distinguish between federalism and state's rights. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary source documents
Skills	 including the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution. Debate current issues. Identify the sequence of events that lead to the writing of the Constitution. Identify clauses in the Constitution that give power to the executive and legislative branches to interact with foreign governments. Describe ways the government solved international problems during this time period.

Brunswick School Department Grade 8 A New Nation Begins

Social Studies

Civics and Government

- A. Rights, Responsibilities, and Participation
 - 2. Evaluate and defend positions on current issues regarding individual rights and judicial protection.
 - 3. Describe and analyze the process by which a proposed law is adopted, including the role of governmental and non-governmental influences.
 - 5. Explain the functions of and relationships among local, state, and national governments.
- C. Fundamental Principles of Government and Constitutions
 - Explain the meaning and importance of fundamental principles of American constitutional democracy (e.g., popular sovereignty, rule of law, three branches of government, representative institutions, shared powers, checks and balances, and separation of church and state.
 - 2. Examine civil rights, liberties, and responsibilities established in the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights.
 - 3. Take and defend positions on current issues involving the constitutional practices of individual rights (e.g., freedom of speech, separations of church and state).

D. International Relations

- 1. Explain the foreign policy powers which the Constitution gives to the branches of the government.
- 2. Assess the ways in which the United States government has attempted to resolve an international problem (e.g., Vietnam, Northern Ireland, World War II).

History

A. Chronology

Identify the sequence of major events and people in the history of Maine, the United States, and selected world civilizations.

B. History

- 1. Demonstrate an understanding of the causes and effects of major events in United States history and the connections to Maine history with an emphasis on events up to 1877, including but not limited to: the Declaration of Independence, Westward Expansion, Civil War, The Constitution, Industrialization)
- C. Historical Inquiry, Analysis, and Interpretation
 - 5. Formulate historical questions based on examination of primary and secondary sources including documents, eyewitness accounts, letters and dairies, artifacts, real or simulated historical sites, charts, graphs, diagrams, and written text.

Related Maine Learning Results

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	 Draw pictures to show weaknesses of the <u>Articles of</u>
	<u>Confederation</u> .
Sample	 Create graphic organizers on the Land Ordinance of 1785 and the
Lessons	Northwest Ordinance.
And	 Draw a graphical representation of the Great Compromise.
Activities	 Write a public service announcement explaining checks and
	balances.
	 Complete a flow chart of how a bill becomes a law.
Sample	 Write a letter to Congress detailing the weaknesses of the <u>Articles</u>
Classroom	of Confederation.
Assessment	Complete a unit test.
Methods	Study a current issue regarding individual rights, take a position
	and defend it.
	Publications:
	o The American Nation, Prentice Hall
	 The Articles of Confederation: A Primary Source – Kerry
Sample	Callahan
Resources	 The Bill of Rights – Earl Miers
	 The Constitution – Richard Brandon Morris
	 The Constitution and Its Amendments
	 The Constitutional Convention – Martin McPhillips
	o In Defense of Liberty: The Story of America's Bill of Rights -
	Russell Freedman
	o We the People
Technology	http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/curriculum
Link	