

CLASSROOM CONFEDRATION

The students will

- simulate the creation of the new state Constitutions during the time of the Articles of Confederation
- explain the issues surrounding important events including writing the Articles of Confederation
- summarize the strengths and weaknesses of Articles of Confederation
- identify points of view from historical context.

TEKS: 8.4C; 8.15B

Materials: Bulletin Board paper, markers, charts

Teaching Strategy:

1. Split the class into heterogeneous groups of 4-5.
2. Each group will be creating a "New Constitution" for their state. This will entail rewriting some class rules for the group.
3. The issues to be addressed and rewritten are
 - Gum Chewing
 - Dress code
 - Homework
 - Classroom Behavior
 - Grading Policy
4. Students need to draft the specifics of the new policy and put it on bulletin board paper to be presented to the class.
5. One group will be designated the Administration. The teacher should assign this group the task of writing the rules from the Administration viewpoint.
6. After all state groups have presented their new Constitutions; have the administration group present theirs.
7. The administration group (national government) will then try to get the class to come to a consensus. (This group should be specifically chosen by the teacher so they can lead a good discussion) this discussion should be students led with teacher intervention only when necessary.

8. The follow up discussion should focus on the state governments' New Constitutions being the laws that are owned by the states and the inability of the national government to enforce the laws over the wishes of the states.
9. Turn the discussion to the Articles of Confederation and the lack of enforcement power, the lack of funds for military and common issues, and the lack of court system to prosecute offenders.

Pre-AP/GT- Students will attempt to set up a compromise set of rules for the school and a compromise set of laws for the country.

School Rule

Policy Change

Gum/Candy

Dress Code

Homework

Classroom
Behavior

Grading
Policy