

THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF CONSTITUTIONALISM COLLAGE

Learning Objectives: The student will

1. Recognize the importance of the Seven Principles of Constitutionalism in the Constitution in today's world
2. Interpret and apply the meaning of the Seven Principles of Constitutionalism in relation to the Constitution

TEKS: 8.15 D; 8.29 C & D

Materials Needed: Copy of the Seven Principles of Constitutionalism chart, station placards, magazines, butcher paper, glue, scissors, markers

Vocabulary: principle, federalism, republicanism, popular sovereignty, limited government, individual rights, checks and balances, separation of powers, collage

Teaching Strategy:

1. Divide the class into seven groups.
2. Give each group one of the seven station placards.
3. Groups will discuss the meaning of the placard and decide which principle of constitutionalism it represents. The students will each fill in the blank on their own chart for that principle with a description of the example on the placard.
4. Once all groups are finished, they pass their placards clockwise to the next group. Repeat process until each group has had a chance to complete each placard.
5. Hand out a piece of white construction paper to each person. Have them divide the paper into eight equal squares. Explain to students that they will create a collage that reflects each of the Seven Principles of Constitutionalism.
6. The first square is for a catchy title for their collage. The seven other squares each represent one of the seven principles. Each square should be labeled. The students will create an illustration(s) or cut out pictures to fill in each square to represent each of the seven principles.

Adaptation:

1. In preparation for the lesson, cut a piece of poster board into seven jigsaw puzzle pieces.
2. Assign each group a principle they must illustrate on their puzzle piece through drawings or magazine or printed pictures.
3. When all groups are finished, pieces should be fit together to form a whole, demonstrating that the Constitution includes all seven principles of Constitutionalism.

Extension for GT/Pre-AP: Divide students into pairs. Students will use magazines, newspapers and approved websites to find modern day articles illustrating how some principles may be ignored or violated today. One student will prepare an explanation of how this principle is being violated. The other student will explain where in the Constitution this principle is found and how the violation might be corrected.

PRINCIPALES KEY—Station Placards

- 1—Checks & Balances**
- 2—Individual Rights**
- 3—Popular Sovereignty**
- 4—Separation of Powers**
- 5—Limited Government**
- 6—Republicanism**
- 7—Federalism**