

## PRINCIPLE PILLARS

Objectives: The student will

1. Create a visual representation of the principles of the Constitution.
2. Analyze how the U.S. Constitution reflects the principles of limited government, republicanism, checks and balances, federalism, separation of powers, popular sovereignty and individual rights.

TEKS: 8.15D; Govt. 7D

Materials needed: Butcher or construction paper, magazines, markers, glue, scissors, computers (optional)

Vocabulary: principle, popular sovereignty, republicanism, federalism

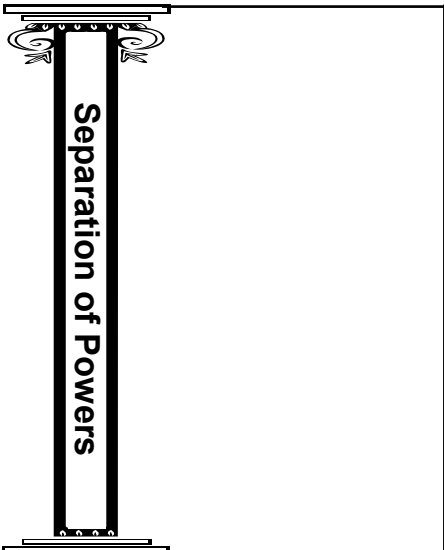
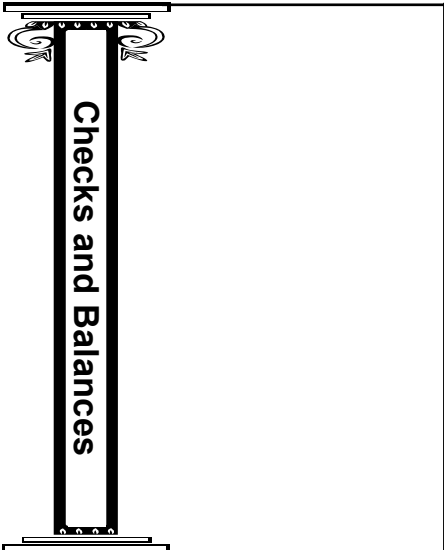
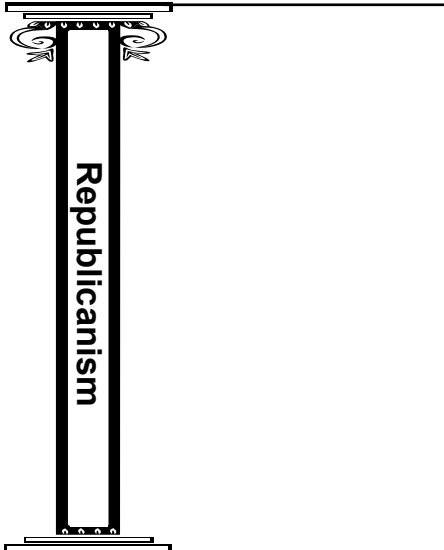
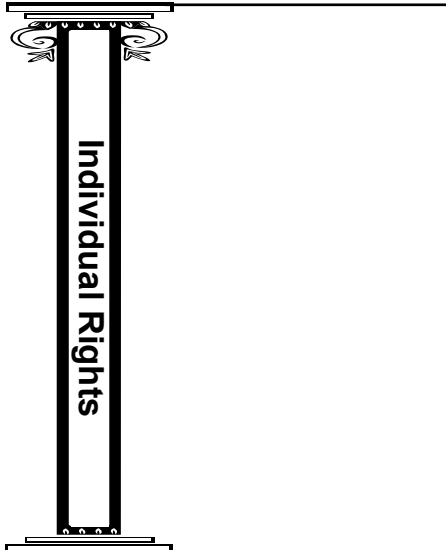
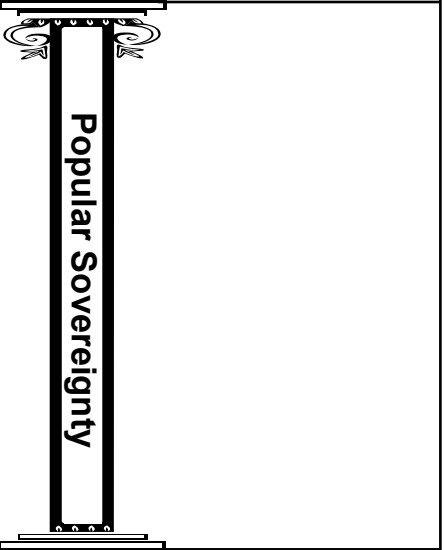
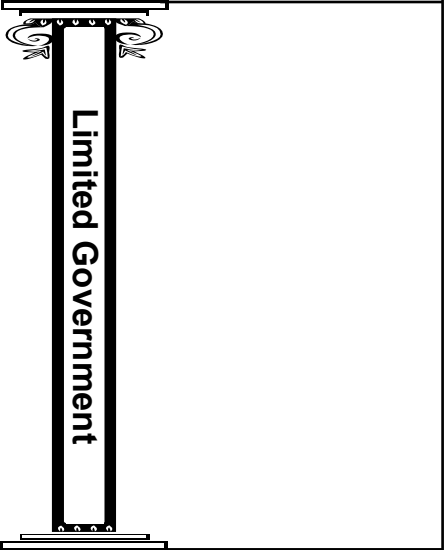
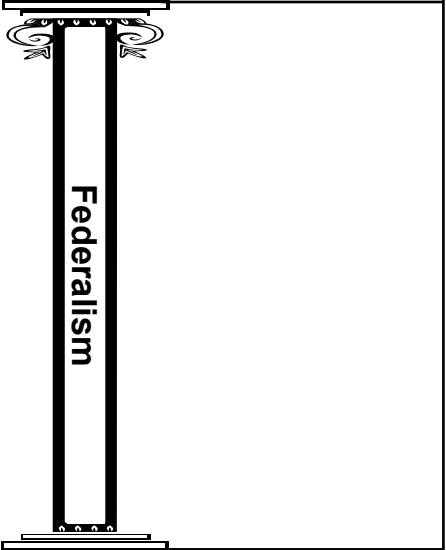
Teaching Strategy:

1. Divide students into 7 groups. Have each group secretly pick a principle of the Constitution. Student groups research the principle they have chosen from text and supplemental material, both written and electronic (if available).
2. After students have a good understanding of their principle, have them create a mural on a pillar created from butcher paper or construction paper. (No words)
3. All completed pillars need to be numbered and posted around the room.
4. After a class discussion of the principles and their meanings, each group gets a set of principle cards. Students then rotate around the room to each mural to assess which principle is represented. The group puts the cards in order according to their interpretation of the visual.
5. Students then reveal which pillar represents each of the 7 principles. The pillars are put together on the front board or on a bulletin board to form the foundation for the Constitution.
6. Each student makes an individual copy of the pillars sheet for information and further assessment.

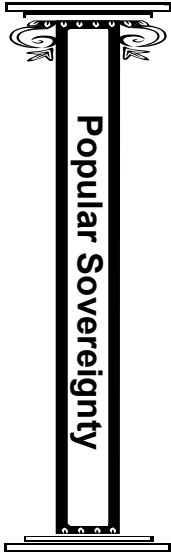
GT/Pre-AP-Students create all 7 principle murals on large index cards. Student's then exchange cards and try to identify each of the principles from another students set of cards and find the Article and section in the Constitution that best reflects the principle. They must be able to justify their answers.

SpEd/ESOL-Students are given cards with principles and an identifying question to use in assessing the murals. Group students heterogeneously.

CARDS




## CARDS




**Popular Sovereignty**

Where does the government get its power?



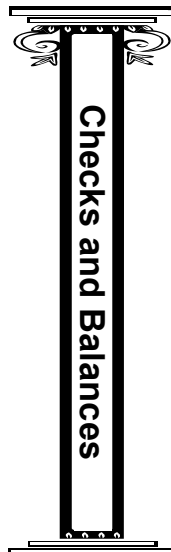
**Limited Government**

How does the government prevent abuse of power?



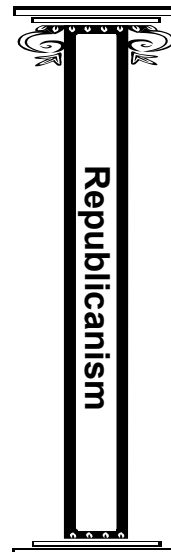
**Federalism**

How is power shared between the federal and state governments?




**Checks and Balances**

How is power distributed and balanced between branches?



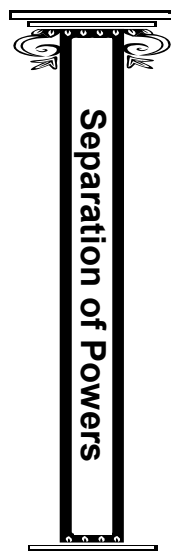
**Republicanism**

How are people's/ citizen's voices represented in government?



**Individual Rights**

How are individual rights protected?



**Separation of Powers**

Which branch of government has which power?