

## Constitution Day Lesson Plan

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### Constitution Day Mini Lesson September 17<sup>th</sup>

#### **Background:**

- Constitution Day is a little over my Young Five's heads. When I ask them who the president is, some of them say it's our principal. When I ask them who the president is married to a few say Miss America. ☺ Many of them don't even realize that they live in the United States, so on Constitution Day I break down the "difficult" language of "stuff" and relate it to a 5-year-old's way of thinking. Here's my mini lesson plan and a few of the things I do on Constitution Day.
- I'd like to post Constitution Day ideas on the September Blog so please share with us. ☺

#### **Discussion:**

- What is a constitution?
- Show pictures of ours and where the real one is located.
- Does a child have rights? What are some of your rights? Go around the circle and ask each child to try and give an answer. Teacher can prompt.
- Teacher writes them down on the "constitution paper" on the black board and later types it up so that each child has a copy to take home.
- Older students can think up 5 of their own rights and write them down and then later share in a discussion by reading what they wrote.
- Make up own constitution and sign it.
- "We the students of Mrs. Henderson's Young Five's class hereby promise to treat other children the way we want to be treated. We

- will keep our hands, feet and mouths to ourselves; and we will always try to do our best. Signed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 2009.
- I type this on parchment-colored paper and have each student sign it, and then I laminate it and hang it in the hallway.

### **Music & Movement:**

John Phillip Sousa's Marching Band CD

We march around the room in a line.

### **Geography:**

- Our school is in Kent City
- Our state is Michigan
- Our country is the United States of America
- I show them maps of each one and we discuss what a map is and how it helps us. I also show them a globe and we discuss which one we like best.

### **Pledge Of Allegiance:**

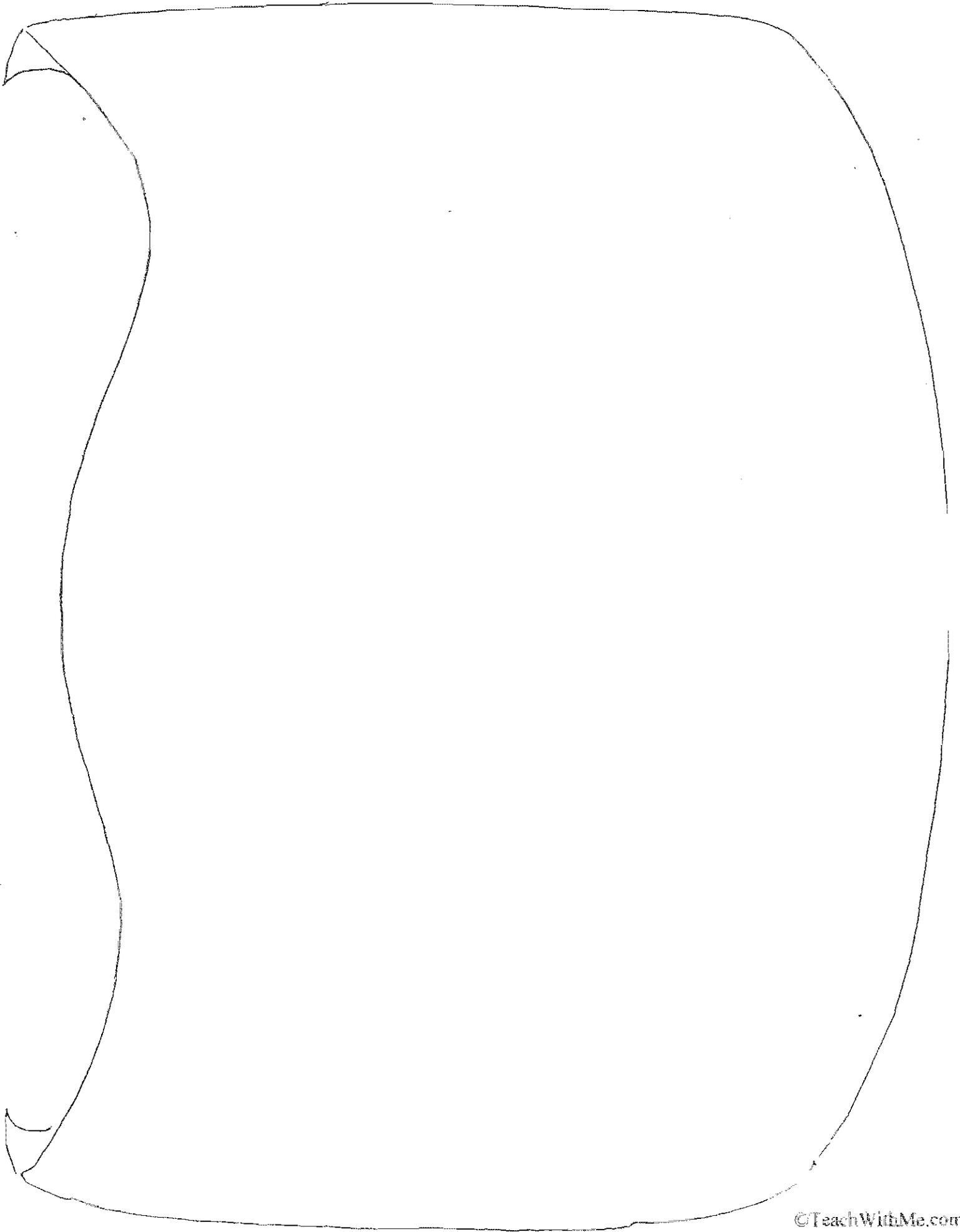
- We say it every morning and I think some of my students are really not understanding why we are doing it and what they are pledging. These are also "big" words for a little kid to comprehend so I break them down and explain that indivisible is not being invisible. ☺ etc.
- As an art project we do a rip & tear flag.
- I also show them different pictures of other countries' flags.

### **Story Time:**

- *We The Kids* (A Constitution Book In kid-speak! ☺) By David Catrow
- *America The Beautiful, Pledge of Allegiance, The Star Spangled Banner* (Awesome pop up books) All by Calvert Gamwell
- *America the Beautiful* By Robert Sabuda

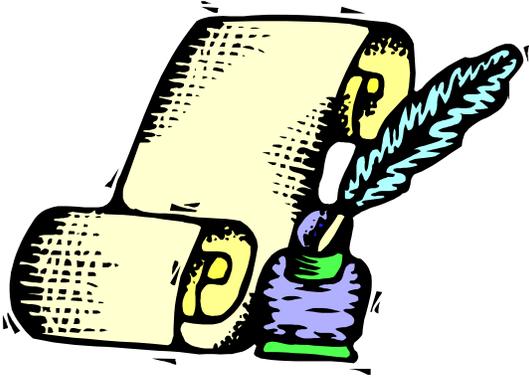
**W**e the students of room \_\_\_\_\_  
led by \_\_\_\_\_ do solemnly  
declare these to be the rules which we agree  
to live by:

**W**e the undersigned agree to live by our  
classroom constitution, Signed on this  
Day \_\_\_\_\_ of this Month: \_\_\_\_\_  
in this Year: \_\_\_\_\_





I learned about the constitution today. People long ago  
wrote with quills!  
A "pen" made from a feather. This is how I wrote my initial  
using a feather.



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## **Oh Do You Know About The Constitution?**

To the Tune of *Oh Do You Know The Muffin Man?*

By Diane L. Henderson ©TeachWithMe.com

Oh do you know about the constitution  
The constitution  
The constitution  
Oh do you know about the constitution  
It gives you freedoms and rights.

It was written in 1787  
1787  
1787  
It was written in 1787  
A very long time ago.

Laws are rules we live by  
Live by  
Live by  
Laws are rules we live by  
They keep us safe each day.

The constitution is the highest law  
The highest law  
The highest law  
The constitution is the highest law  
In the USA.

It tells you how the government works.  
The government works.  
The government works.  
It tells you how the government works.  
It has three parts.

The constitution sets up the government.  
The government.  
The government.  
The constitution sets up the government.  
It creates the “C”, the “P”, and the “C”.

The “C” stands for the Congress.  
The Congress  
The Congress  
The “C” stands for the Congress.  
A part of the government.



The “P” stands for the President  
The President  
The President  
The “P” stands for the President  
A part of the government.

The other “C” stands for the Courts  
The Courts  
The Courts  
The other “C” stands for the Courts  
A part of the government..

They all work together  
Together  
Together  
They all work together  
Within the constitution.

Another part of the constitution  
The constitution  
The constitution  
Another part of the constitution  
Is the Bill Of Rights.



The constitution had changes  
Changes  
Changes  
The constitution had changes  
Those are called amendments.

We enjoy our freedoms and rights  
Freedoms and rights  
Freedoms and rights  
We enjoy our freedoms and rights  
Because of the constitution.

