



**Constitution**  
**Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library**  
**A Selective Annotated Bibliography**

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**PRIMARY (K-5)**

Barnes, Peter W. *House Mouse, Senate Mouse*. Alexandria: Rosebud Books, Vacation Spot Pub., 1996. E  
B2629H

- The Squeaker of the House and the Senate Mouse-jority Leader have a big job to do: Miss Tuftmore's second grade class in Moussouri has written Congress with an idea for a law to declare a National Cheese! But in a big country, it's not always easy to get everyone to agree on an important issue.

Smith, Lane. *John, Paul, George and Ben*. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2006. E  
SM618J

- A humorous look at five of our country's founding fathers.

Turner, Ann Warren. *Katie's Trunk*. New York: Macmillan, 1992. E  
T851YK

- Katie, whose family is not sympathetic to the rebel soldiers during the American Revolution, hides under the clothes in her mother's wedding trunk when they invade her home.

Cooper, Richard. *Senator Sam: defender of the Constitution*. Raleigh: Creative Productions, 1985. B  
ER93C

- Biography of the noted U.S. Senator, tracing his life from boyhood in Morganton, N.C. to judge on the North Carolina Supreme Court and national recognition as a central figure in the Watergate hearings.

- Allen, Kathy. *The U.S. Constitution*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2007. 342.73029  
AL539U
- Simple text and photographs introduce the U.S. Constitution, its history, and significance.
- Fritz, Jean. *Shh! We're Writing The Constitution*. New York: Putnam, 1987. 342.73029  
F919S
- Describes how the Constitution came to be written and ratified. Also includes the full text of the document produced by the Constitutional Convention of 1787.
- Maestro, Betsy. *A More Perfect Union: The Story Of Our Constitution*. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1987. 342.73  
M268M
- This easy-to-understand book tells why and how the Constitution of the United States was created.
- Pearl, Norman. *The Bill of Rights*. Minneapolis: Picture Window Books, 2007. 342.7303  
P3163B
- Describes the importance of the Bill of Rights and how it came to be.
- Pearl, Norman. *The U.S. Constitution*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2007. 342.7302  
P3163U
- Its 1787, and a handful of men are about to sign the United States Constitution. In a few minutes, a newly free country will have a set of rules made by the people, for the people. Join lawmaker James Madison as he picks up a pen and makes history.
- Sobel, Syl. *The U.S. Constitution and You*. Hauppauge, NY: Barron's Educational Series, 2001. 342.73  
SO12U
- All elementary school students learn about the history of the U.S. Constitution when they begin social studies. This book tells them about the great American document itself--explaining exactly what the Constitution does as well as how it affects and protects people today.

Yero, Judith Lloyd. *The Bill of Rights*. Washington DC: National Geographic, 2006. 342.73085  
Y45B

- Challenges young readers to carefully examine and understand the Constitution's first ten Amendments, which guarantee their basic human rights.

**MIDDLE (6-8)**

Fritz, Jean. *The Great Little Madison*. New York: Putnam, 1989. B  
M2657F

- Traces the life and contributions of the sickly child with the small voice who grew up to become the fourth president of the United States.

Keller, Kristen Thoennes. *Carrie Chapman Catt: a voice for women*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2006. B  
C294T

- Carrie Chapman Catt restructured and organized the suffrage movement to help pass the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Her tireless work for women's rights enabled women in every state to vote in the 1920 presidential election.

Venezia, Mike. *James Madison*. New York: Children's Press, 2004.

- An introduction to the life of James Madison, a man of poor health who could not fight in the Revolutionary War but whose ideas formed the core of the Constitution and Bill of Rights, and who became the nation's fourth president. B  
M2657V

Anderson, Joan. *1787*. San Diego: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 1987. F  
AN2381S

- As James Madison's aide during the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, young Jared Mifflin experiences a summer filled with adventure, intrigue, and romance.

Gutman, Dan. *The Kid Who Ran For President*. New York: Scholastic Inc., 1996. F  
G9858K

- With his friend as campaign manager and his former babysitter as running mate, twelve-year-old Judson Moon sets out to become President of the United States.

- Ayer, Eleanor H. *Our Flag*. Brookfield: Millbrook Press, 1992. 929.9  
AY240
- Examines the history, usage, and etiquette of the American flag.
- Burgan, Michael. *The Bill of Rights*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2002. 342.73  
B91B
- Examines the Bill of Rights and the important part it plays in Americans' lives today.
- Burgan, Michael. *The Creation of the U.S. Constitution*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2007. 342.7302  
B91C
- The story of the creation of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Presented in graphic format.
- Carter, Alden R. *Birth Of The Republic*. New York: F. Watts, 1988. 973.3  
C245B
- Discusses the final campaigns of the Revolutionary War and the structuring of a new nation, from the formulation of the Articles of Confederation to the adoption of the Constitution.
- Collier, Christopher. *Creating the Constitution, 1787*. New York: Benchmark Books, 1999. 342.73  
C6903C
- Examines the events and personalities involved in creating the constitution of the United States in 1787, a document which has been the foundation of American democracy for over 200 years.
- Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution. *1791-1991: 200 Years of our Bill of Rights*. Washington DC: Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, 1991. 342.7302  
SE82
- The purpose of this resource guide is to help commands plan commemorative programs and activities during the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.
- Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution. *The Constitution: let's talk about it*. Washington DC: Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, 1987-1991. 342.02  
C766 Unit  
1-4
- The purpose of this resource guide is to help commands plan commemorative programs and activities during the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

- Eck, Kristin. *Drafting the Constitution: Weighing Evidence to Draw Sound Conclusions*. New York: Rosen, 2006. 342.73029  
EC51D
- Examines the drafting of the Constitution of the United States, looks at how and why it was written and some of the people who helped to write it. Includes critical thinking activities.
- Evans, J. Edward. *Freedom Of Speech*. Minneapolis: Lerner Publications Co., 1990. 323.443  
EV15F
- Traces the history of the concept of freedom of speech, discusses how the Supreme Court has interpreted the constitutional amendment, and provides historical and present-day examples of why the issue is controversial.
- Faber, Doris and Harold Faber. *We the People: the story of the United States Constitution since 1787*. New York: Scribner's, 1987. 342.73  
F112D
- Recounts the evolution of our Constitution from the Constitutional Convention in 1787 and discusses the changes that have come about in the ensuing 200 years.
- Finkelman, Paul. *The Constitution*. Washington DC: National Geographic, 2006. 342.73  
F4957C
- An introduction to the American Constitution, including why and how it was written and how it is amended.
- Fradin, Dennis B. *The Founders: the 39 Stories Behind the U.S. Constitution*. New York: Walker, 2005. 973.3  
F8416F
- The stories behind the Constitution are as powerful as the nation it created.
- Johnson, Linda, Carlson. *Our Constitution*. Brookfield: Millbrook Press, 1992. 342.73  
J634O
- Describes the creation of the document which sets out the rules of government for our country.
- McCully, Emily Arnold. *The Ballot Box Battle*. New York: Knopf, 1996. 324.6  
M139B
- From Caldecott medalist Emily Arnold McCully comes the inspiring story of Cordelia, a young girl whose relationship with her neighbor, the great suffragist Elizabeth Cady Stanton, inspires her to a remarkable act of courage.

- Peterson, Christine. *The U.S. Constitution*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2007. 342.73029  
P44264U
- Describes the U.S. Constitution, its history, and significance.
- Prolman, Marilyn. *The Constitution*. Chicago: Children Press, 1995. 342.73  
P9441C
- Describes the need for unification in a growing country and discusses the problems and decisions of the men who drafted the Constitution of the United States.
- Rebman, Renee C. *The Articles of the Confederation*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2006. 342.73029  
R242A
- Learn about the first attempts to write a constitution for the U.S.
- Schwartz, Eric. *What Makes America America?* Philadelphia: Mason Crest, 2005. 973  
SCH953W
- Discusses the events that shaped America, including its government and economic system.
- Smith, Carter. *The Founding Presidents: A Sourcebook On The U.S. Presidency*. Brookfield: Millbrook Press, 1993. 973.099  
F825
- Uses a variety of contemporary materials to describe and illustrate the political and personal lives of the United States presidents from George Washington to James Monroe.
- SECONDARY (9-12)**
- Dudley, William. *The Civil War: Opposing Viewpoints*. San Diego: Greenhaven Press, 1995. 973.7  
C499
- Primary source, documentary evidence in six chapters that present differing views of issues and events surrounding the Civil War.
- The Founding Fathers and Justice Learning.org. *The United States Constitution: what it says, what it means*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005. 342.7302  
UN318U
- An understandable description of each Article and Amendment right in the palm of your hand.

- Haynes, Charles, Sam Chaltain, Susan Glisson. *First Freedoms: a documentary history of the First Amendment Rights in America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006. 342.7308 H3332F
- A rich and engaging exploration of the documents that illustrate the origins and development of First Amendment freedoms in American history.
- Jaffe, Steven H. *Who Were The Founding Fathers? Two Hundred Years Of Reinventing American History*. New York: H. Holt and Co., 1996. 973.3072 J18W
- From the beginning of the American Revolution to the very latest talk show and court case, Americans have argued over the Founding Fathers. Not only have we questioned the motives, meaning, and purpose of their actions, we have fought over who they actually were: only signers of the Declaration? soldiers on the front? women in the homes? slaves in the fields?
- Meltzer, Milton. *The Bill Of Rights: How We Got It And What It Means*. New York: Thomas Crowell, c1990. 342.73 M496B
- Traces the history of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution and highlights contemporary challenges to each of the ten amendments.
- Mitchell, Memory F. *North Carolina Signers: brief sketches of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution*. Raleigh: Division of Archives History, 1980. 975.6 N811N
- brief sketches of the men from North Carolina who signed the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution
- Preiss, Byron and David Osterlund. *The Constitution of the United States of America*. New York: Bantam Books, 1987. 342.73 C766
- Handy pocket reference to the Constitution, this volume will answer the needs of those wishing to look up the exact wording of an amendment or some general background on its framing.

- Ritchie, Donald A. *Our Constitution*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006. 342.7302  
R1504O
- An in-depth look at the entire text of the U. S. Constitution annotated with detailed explanations of its terms and contents. Each Amendment and Article is accompanied by sidebar material on the history of its application, including profiles of important Supreme Court cases, texts of related primary source documents, and contemporary news articles. Double-page timelines for several of the Articles and all the Amendments highlight important events and legal cases. Includes facsimile reproductions of primary source documents, paintings, photos, and historical artifacts.
- Stoel, Caroline and Ann Clarke. *Magna Carta to the Constitution: liberty under the law*. Portland: Magna Carta in America and Graphics Arts Center, 1986. 342.029  
ST65M
- Companion book to the traveling exhibition entitled 'Roads to Liberty: Magna Carta to the Constitution'
- Vigilante, David. *The Evolution of the Bill of Rights: a unit study for grades 8-12*. Los Angeles: National Center for History in the Schools, 1992. 575  
V683E
- Williams, Jean Kinney. *The U.S. Constitution*. Minneapolis, MN: Compass Point Books, 2004. 342.73  
W6733U
- Explains what the Constitution is, how and why it was formed, and who controls it.

## WEB RESOURCES

1. Ben's Guide to U.S. Government for Kids. <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>  
This website provides information and activities for all grade levels on US history and government. It also includes information for teachers and parents as well as links to governmental websites.
2. The U.S. Constitution On-Line. *The Constitution for Kids*. <http://www.usconstitution.net/index.html>  
This website contains information on the US Constitution written specifically for children on their grade level. It provides examples of how to incorporate the US Constitution into several different subject areas.

3. National Constitution Center. *Explore the Constitution*.  
<http://www.constitutioncenter.org/explore/ForKids/index.shtml>  
This website contains information and puzzles relating to the US Constitution.
4. The White House. *White House Kids*. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/constitution/>  
This website contains information and activities for children on the US Constitution.
5. Yahoooligans. *Teacher's Guide*. <http://yahoooligans.yahoo.com/tg/constitution.html>  
This website includes lesson plans which incorporate internet activities.
6. Social Studies for Kids. *The Constitution*.  
<http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/subjects/constitution.htm>.  
This website contains information on the US Constitution and its signers. It includes a "Roadmap to the Constitution" created by children.
7. Score. *Constitution Day*. [http://score.rims.k12.ca.us/score\\_lessons/special\\_events/constitution\\_day/](http://score.rims.k12.ca.us/score_lessons/special_events/constitution_day/)  
This website provides lesson plans and links for students of all ages.
8. Justice Learning. *Constitution Day*. <http://www.justicelearning.org/constitutionday/index.asp>  
This website contains programs and activities specifically designed for Constitution Day.
9. Constitution Facts.Com. [www.constitutionfacts.com/](http://www.constitutionfacts.com/)  
This website contains information, games, and quizzes on the US Constitution.
10. *Charters of Freedom: Constitution of the United States*  
<http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution.html>  
This website is part of the National Archives website. It provides information on the history and formation of the US Constitution as well as a copy of the document.
11. *Teaching With Documents: Observing Constitution Day*  
<http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/constitution-day/index.html>
12. *United States House of Representatives: Educational Resources*  
<http://www.house.gov/house/Educate.shtml>
13. *Constitution Day, Inc.*  
<http://www.constitutionday.com/>
14. *Annenberg Classroom Resources for America's Teachers: Constitution Day*  
<http://www.annenbergclassroom.org/Chapter.aspx?Id=61>
15. *The United States Constitution Pocket Guide*  
[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=108\\_cong\\_document&docid=f:hd096.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=108_cong_document&docid=f:hd096.pdf)
16. *Historic Documents: The US Constitution*  
<http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00000026.shtml>

17. **Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District: Constitution Day Activities**  
[http://cfbstaff.cfbisd.edu/davidj/Special%20Events/Constitution%20Day/constitution\\_day.htm](http://cfbstaff.cfbisd.edu/davidj/Special%20Events/Constitution%20Day/constitution_day.htm)

18. **Best of History Web Sites**  
[http://www.besthistorysites.net/USHistory\\_Constitution.shtml](http://www.besthistorysites.net/USHistory_Constitution.shtml)

This website contains lesson plans on the US Constitution and links to other websites.

19. **Constitution of the United States: A Pathfinder for 5<sup>th</sup> Graders**  
[http://nb.wsd.wednet.edu/lmc/pathfinders/constitution\\_pathfinder.htm#Internet%20Sites](http://nb.wsd.wednet.edu/lmc/pathfinders/constitution_pathfinder.htm#Internet%20Sites)  
(Go to this site and check out the internet links listed here as possible additions to the bibliography—there are great ones for elementary here!)

20. **Illinois First Amendment Center**  
<http://www.illinoisfirstamendmentcenter.com/history.php>

21. **Education for Freedom: Lesson Plans for Teaching the First Amendment**  
<http://www.freedomforum.org/packages/first/curricula/educationforfreedom/L01main.htm>

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