

K12 HANDHELDS

CONSTITUTION DAY CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

K12 Handhelds is making available free electronic resources for Constitution Day. These resources are available at www.k12handhelds.com/curriculum.

Here some simple activities you can do using these resources:

- Have students use the highlighting function in MobiPocket to highlight the main ideas in the “Making of the Constitution” ebook. (To highlight text in MobiPocket, just select it and hold. Then select highlight from the pop-up menu.)
- Have students create a classroom constitution. In this document, they should identify how rules are made and enforced (the government) and what rights, privileges, duties, and responsibilities classroom members have.
- Have students create an illustrated timeline of events leading up to the writing of the Constitution. (They can do this on the handheld in Note Pad, Notes, NoviiAnimator, Sketchy, or another drawing program.)
- Have students create their own quiz about the Constitution in Quizzler. Then have them beam each other their quizzes. (This is a good way to reinforce key concepts that is fun for kids.)

Here are some more advanced activities:

- Have students take the recordings of the Constitution and its amendments and add their own explanations of each article or amendment. Students can use software like [Audacity](#) or [Garageband](#) to edit the audio and add their own tracks.
- Have students research the constitution of another country. Then have them complete a compare-and-contrast graphic organizer showing how it is similar to and different from the U.S. Constitution. (On the handheld, students can do this in Documents to Go, Word Mobile, or Inspiration.)
- Have students identify a current events issue that has Constitutional implications (for example, immigration or issues related to terrorism or the war in Iraq). Give them resources to research this issue (online articles, newspapers, etc.; [Plucker](#) works well for this on the handhelds). Then have them produce a final product that identifies the Constitutional issues, takes a position, and gives support for that position. The final product can be a written paper, a PowerPoint presentation, or a [podcast](#).
- Have students create a wiki about the Constitution and U.S. government. Over time, have students add information from current events and related information they come across. (If you don't already have a classroom wiki set up, [Wikispaces](#) is one place you can set up a wiki for free.)

We hope you enjoy these resources. If you would like to share ideas about how you used them or what you did in your classroom, please email us at info@k12handhelds.com. We'll share these in a future issue of our newsletter.