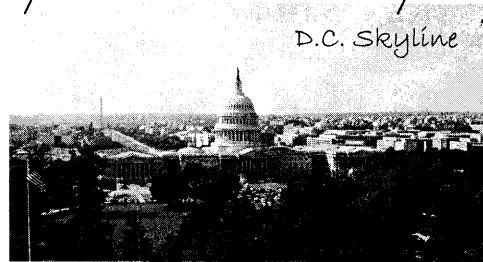


Resources

New!
Kids Corner at
www.house.gov/blackburn



Student of the Month

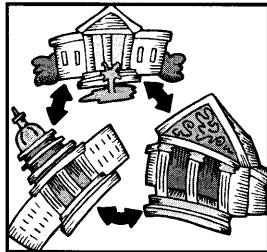


William Moore

September 2007

Margie Blackburn

BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT



www.house.gov/blackburn



For Educators

INFORMATION FOR EDUCATORS

As a Member of Congress and a mother of two children, I understand the importance of education. Enclosed is information and resources for educators. If I can be of assistance, please don't hesitate to contact one of my offices.

My best,



Marsha Blackburn, Member of Congress

Student of the Month

Recognizing the achievements and successes of our students is a valuable tool in education. If your school currently has a "Student of the Month" program, and would like a certificate for the student, please contact Francee Preston (francee.preston@mail.house.gov) in my Franklin district office. Please email your list of names as they are to appear on the certificate a *minimum of 2 weeks* prior to the assembly date.

Live It! Program

Step with it. Fit it in.

The Live It! Program encourages students to develop healthy eating and exercise habits. As part of the Live It! Program, students may take the Presidential Challenge and earn the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award (PALA).

For more information on the PALA through the Live It! Program, visit their website at www.liveitprogram.com and click on the PALA button at the top of the webpage.

Class Trip to DC?

A trip to our Nation's Capitol is an exciting and educational experience for students. It would be a pleasure to have the students stop by my Washington, DC office for a visit. My district staff is available to talk to the class prior to the trip about the legislative process. For more information, call my office at 202-225-2811 prior to the trip.



Website Links

For a variety of web links visit the new "Kids Corner" on my redesigned website: www.house.gov/blackburn

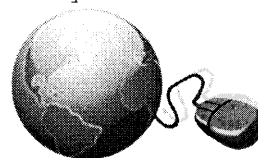
Grants

The Department of Education offers a variety of grant opportunities. In an effort to assist local school systems in applying for grant funding, my Grants Coordinator is available to work with educators during the grant process.

Resources for Educators

With the tremendous amount of resources available for students online, I have worked with the Office of the Clerk and Government Printing Office to share with you some of the printouts available online. Each school will receive a resource book of printouts and suggestions you are welcome to use in the classroom.

Visit my new website at



www.house.gov/blackburn

Congressman Marsha Blackburn Offices

509 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-2811

7975 Stage Hills Boulevard
Suite 1
Memphis, TN 38133
901- 382-5811

1850 Memorial Drive
Suite 1
Clarksville, TN 37043
931-503-0391

109 3rd Avenue South
Suite 117
Franklin, TN 37064
615-591-5161

Table of Contents

Website Links	3
Elementary School Section	4
Cover Sheet for Kids' Day in the House	5
Word Puzzle	6
Capitol Maze	7
US Capitol Color Sheet	8
A. Bill Color Sheet	9
The Mace Color Sheet	10
American Flag Color Sheet	11
Middle School Section	12
Lesson Plan: How a Bill Becomes a Law	13
Lesson Plan: How to Write Your Representative	17
Mystery Word Puzzle	18
Mystery Word Puzzle Answer Key	19
Constitution Crossword	20
Constitution Crossword Answer Key	21
Word Search	22
Word Search Answer Key	23

Kid's Section ~ Just For Kids

My website now offers a Kid's Section with links to the following websites:

Ben's Guide to U.S. Government

Learn how your U.S. Government works, about its history and your civic responsibilities by reading these pages and playing the games on this site.

Kid's in the House: The Official Kid's Page of the U.S. House of Representatives

Learn about the legislative process and its effect on you. Experience the exciting world of government like you never have before.

White House

Visit the White House's official page for kids and learn about president, his responsibilities and the history of the office.

Kid's News

Read news just for kids at the Washington Post Kid's Post Page.

First Gov for Kids

The federal government's portal for fun, educational and safe sites for kids.

CIA's Homepage for Kids

What it takes to be a spy? Read about the history of the CIA and try on spy disguises.

National Zoo

Meet the animals that live at our national zoo.

NASA Just for Kids

Learn about our missions to space, new technologies and the history of our space program.

National Children's Museum

Take a tour of the National Children's Museum.

EPA's Explorers' Club

Learn about the environment and what you can do to protect it.

Smithsonian Kids' Castle

The Smithsonian's official site for kids includes games and learning material about the things that kids are interested in.

The Congressional Award

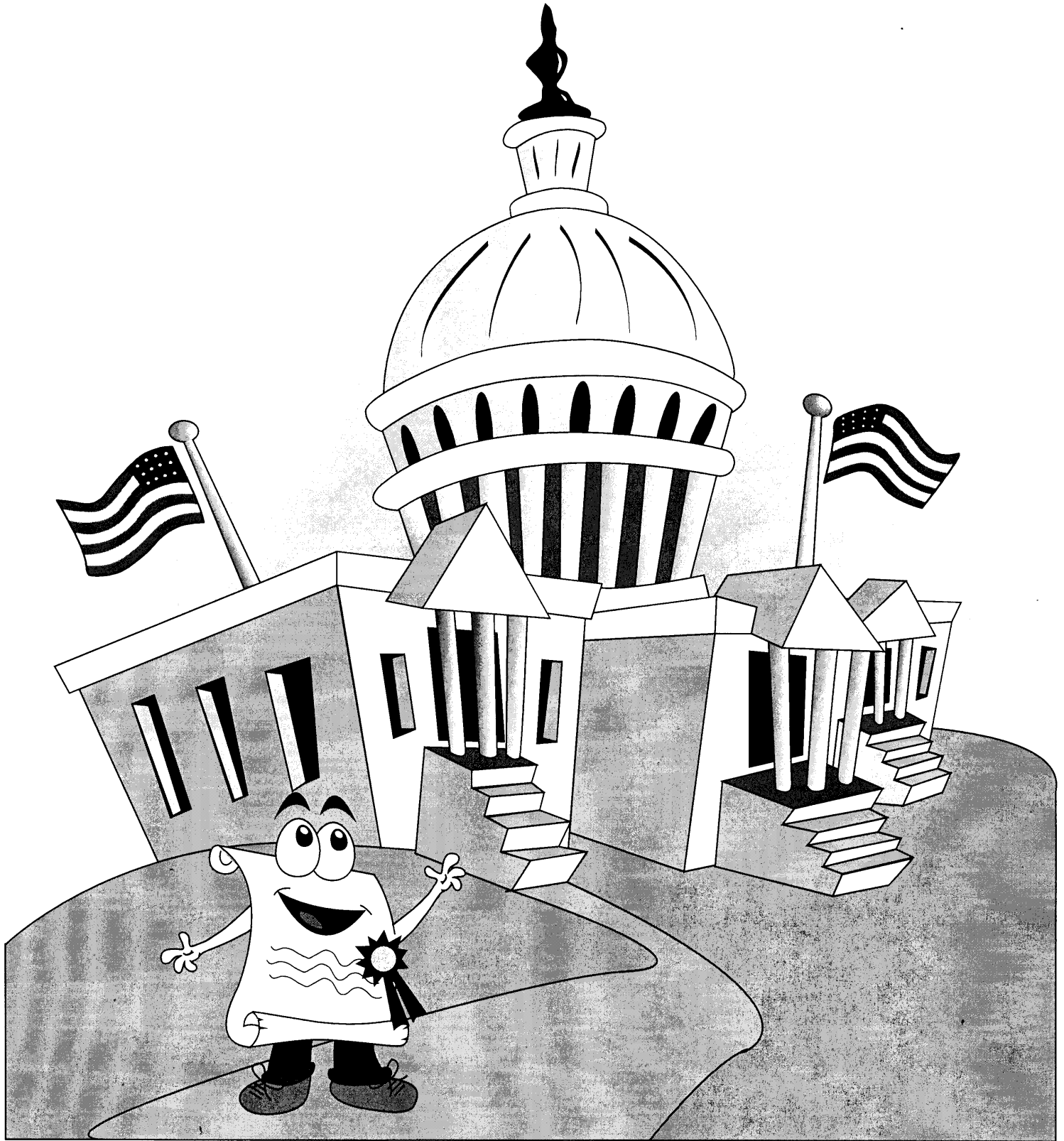
The Congressional Award is a public partnership created by Congress to promote and recognize achievement, initiative, and service in America's youth. This award provides a unique opportunity for young people to set and achieve personally challenging goals that build character and foster community service, personal development, and citizenship.

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Elementary
School
Section

Kids' Day in the House

Take Home the House



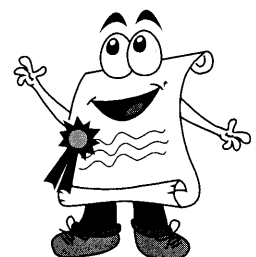
Kids' Day in the House

Word Puzzle

The House of Representatives has lots of important symbols and decorations in it. Twelve of them are hidden in the puzzle below. See how many you can find. Don't forget, the words could be written forward, backward, up, down, horizontally, or even diagonally!

cornucopia	fascis	justice	liberty	peace	tolerance
eagle	flag	laurel wreath	mace	star	union

L	D	L	E	C	N	A	R	E	L	O	T
A	L	I	D	U	B	H	K	E	Z	G	V
U	Q	B	B	W	J	J	E	L	G	A	E
R	A	E	I	U	N	I	O	N	E	I	X
E	N	R	L	E	T	S	I	R	H	P	A
L	Y	T	R	I	E	C	A	E	P	O	E
W	Y	Y	O	C	A	T	U	L	P	C	C
R	V	Z	S	N	S	F	S	E	C	U	I
E	S	A	G	S	C	K	R	M	A	N	P
A	F	W	F	L	A	G	F	A	S	R	M
T	T	B	E	W	D	B	D	C	Y	O	T
H	L	J	U	S	T	I	C	E	W	C	Y



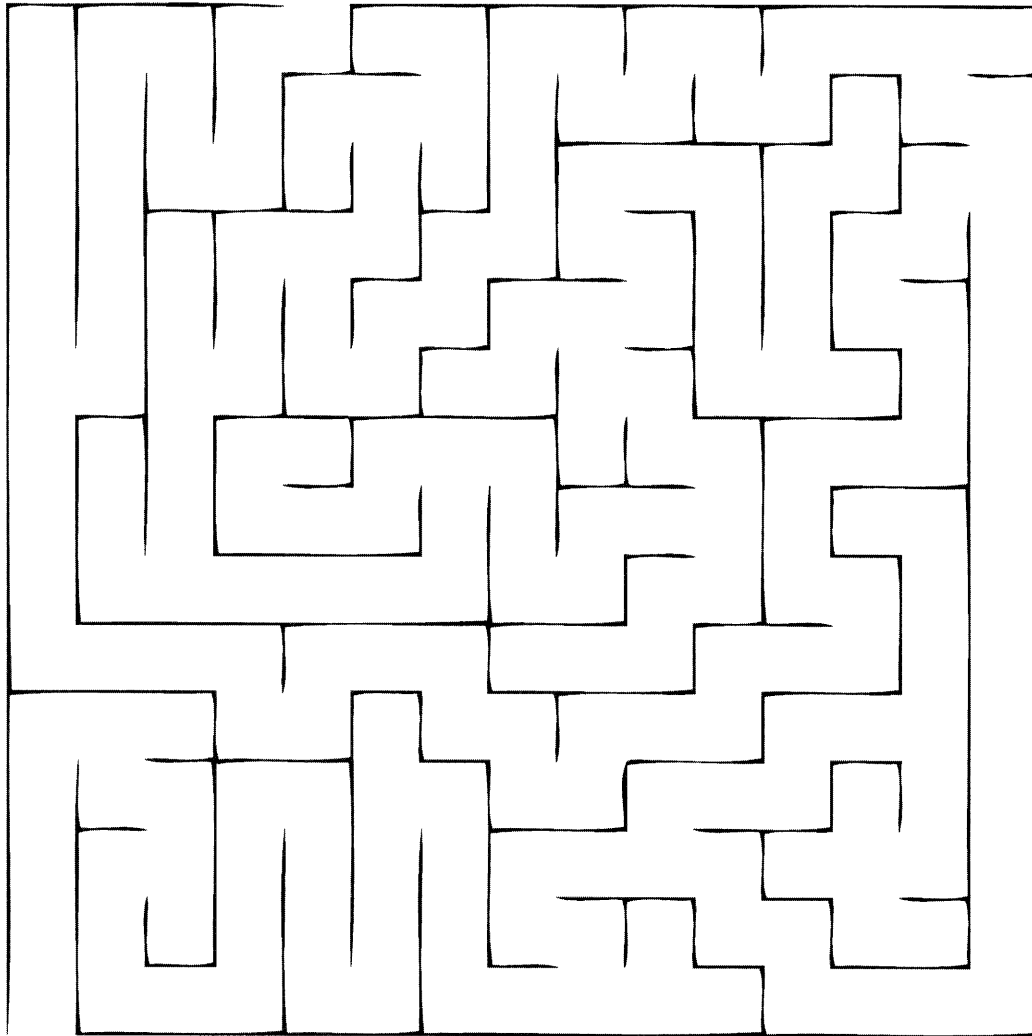
Kids' Day in the House

Capitol Maze

Hey Kids! Could you help me
find my way through this
Capitol Maze? Sure you can!

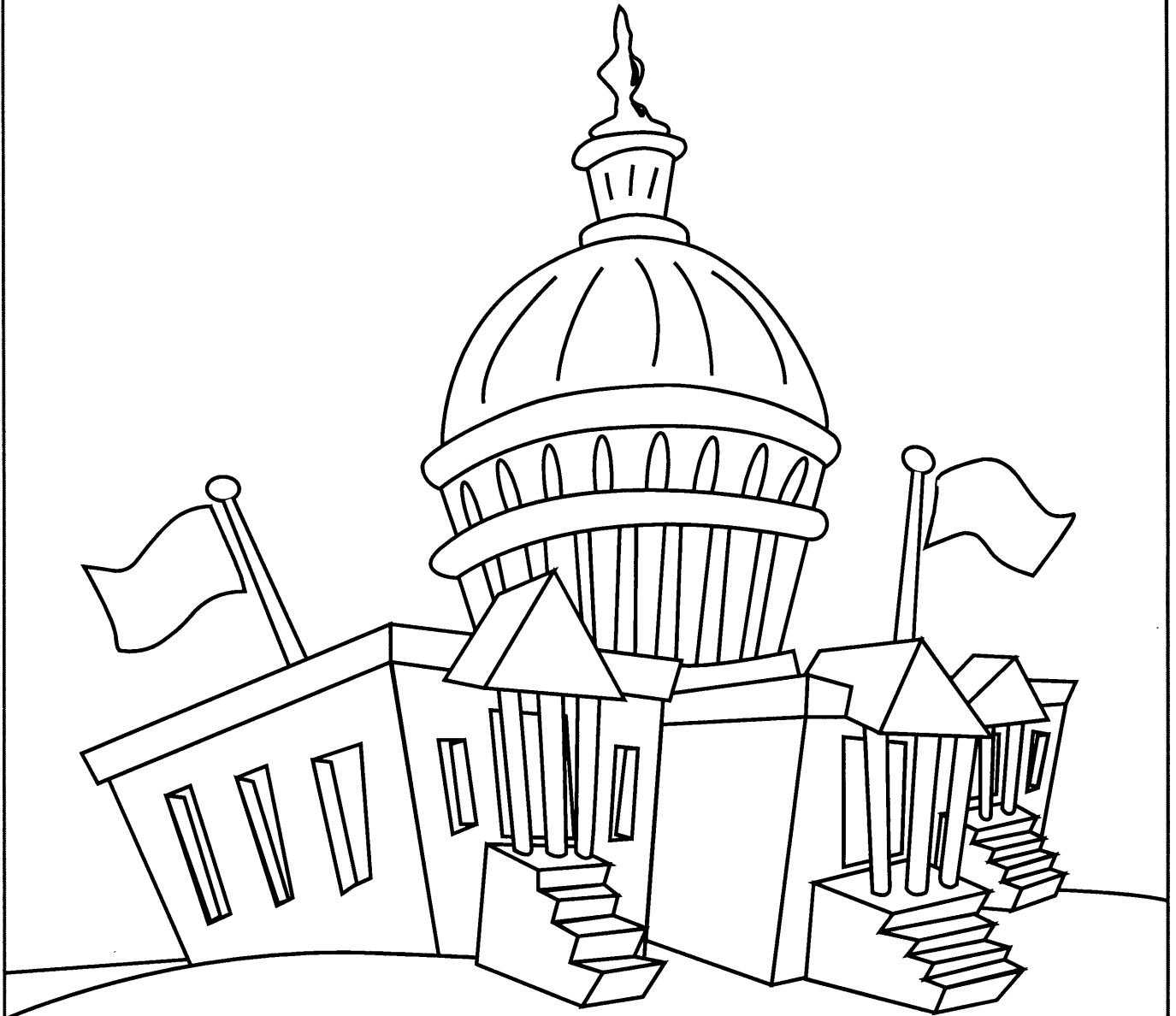


START



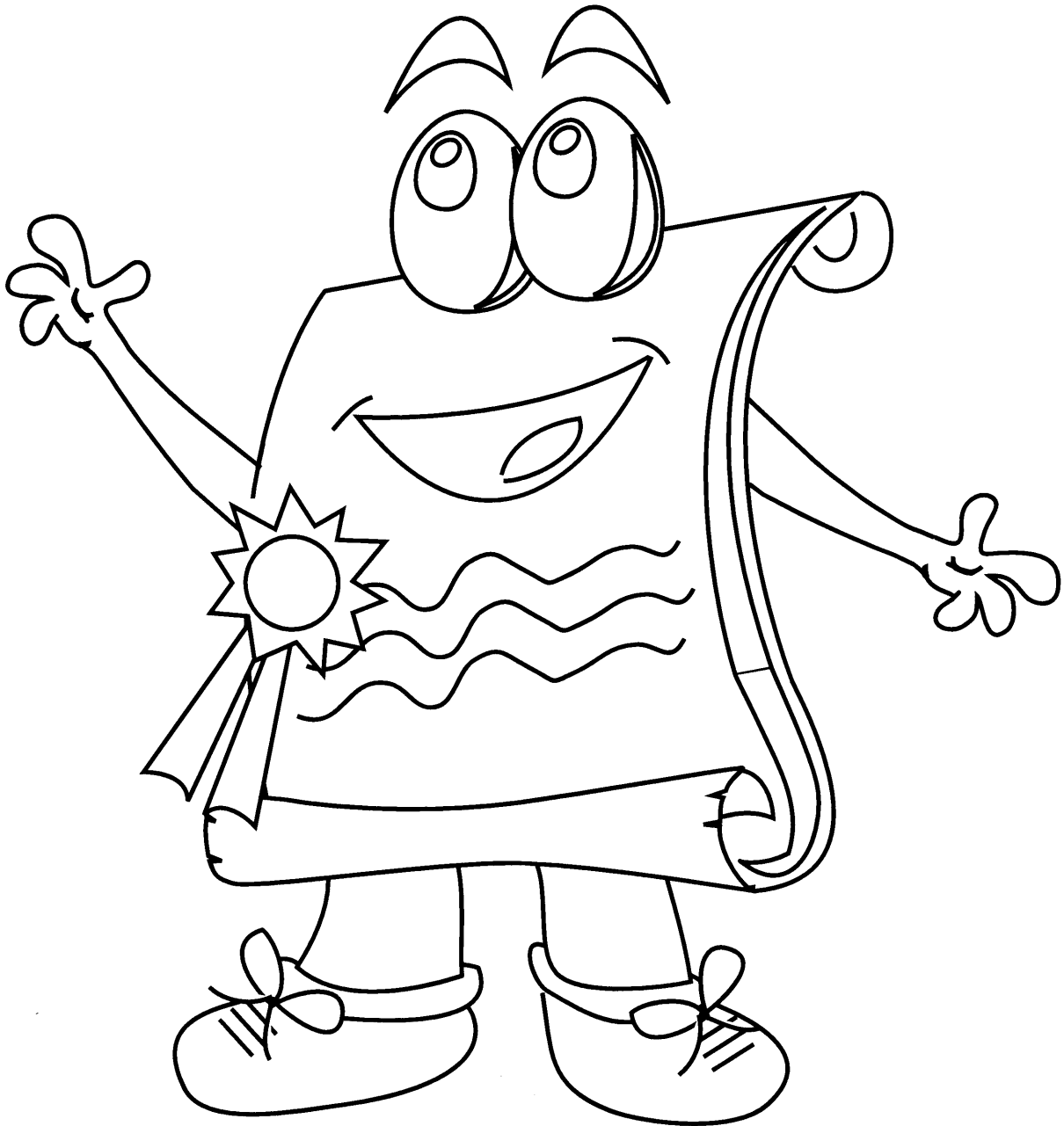
FINISH

Kids' Day in the House



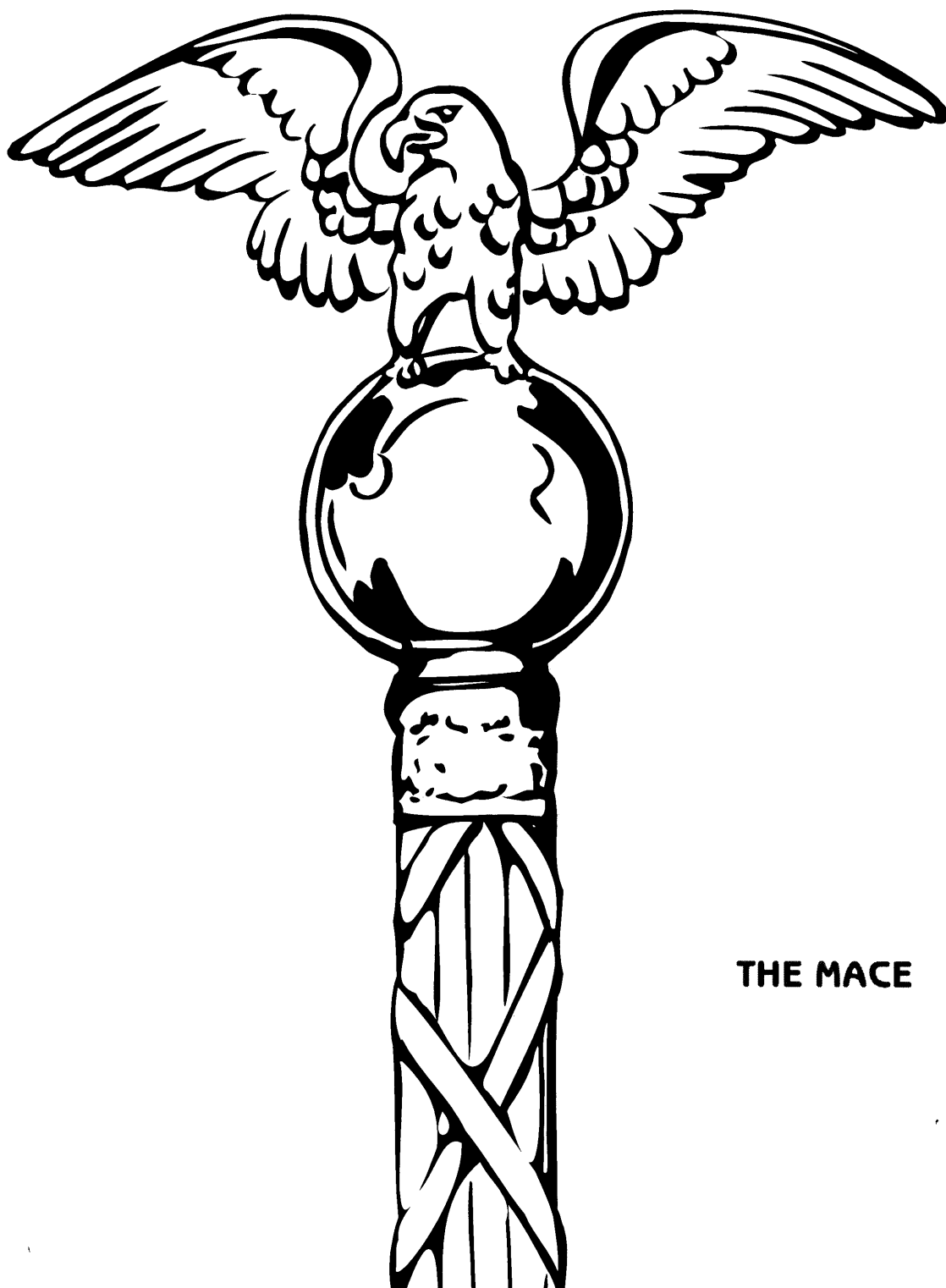
THE U.S. CAPITOL

Kids' Day in the House



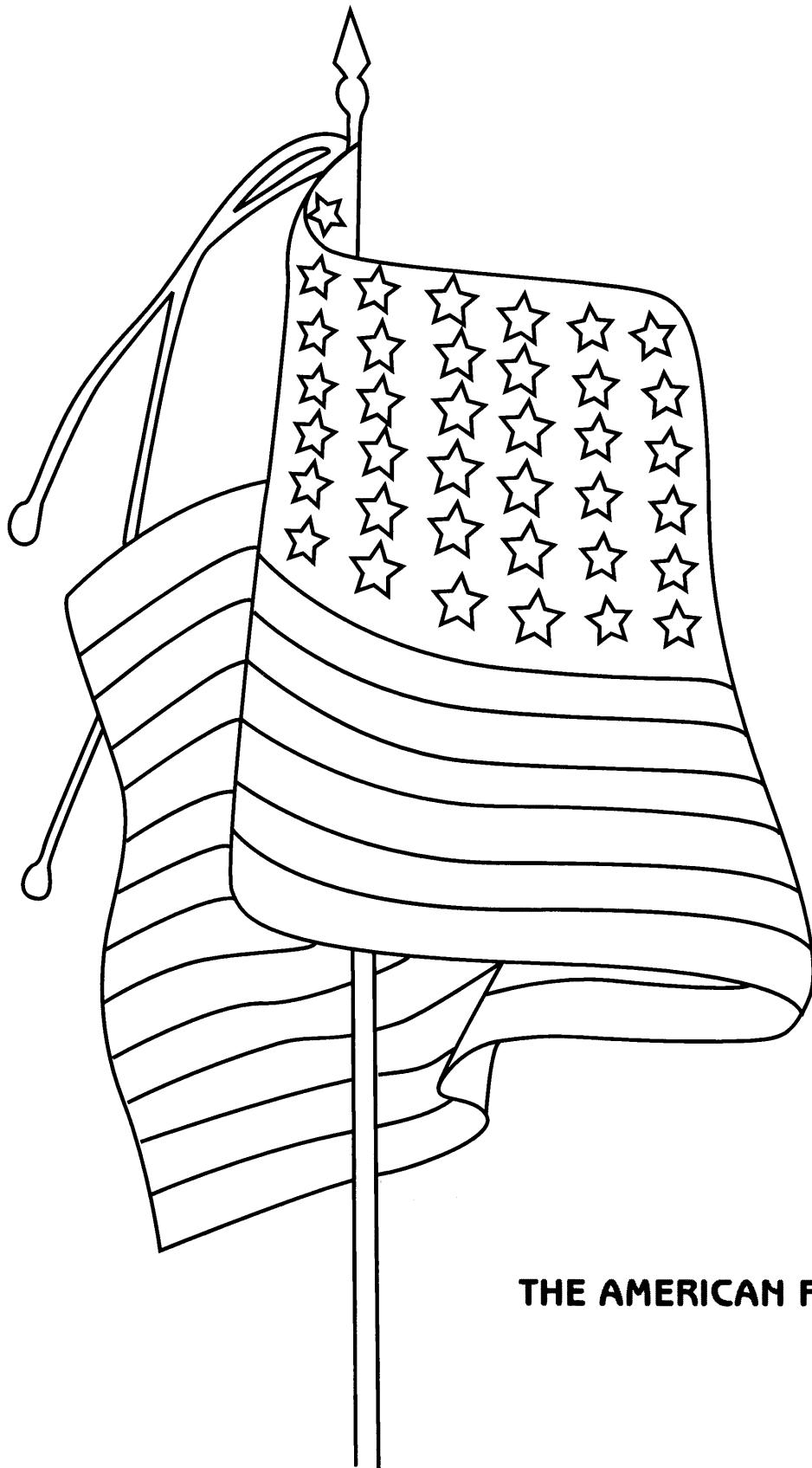
A. BILL

Kids' Day in the House



THE MACE

Kids' Day in the House



THE AMERICAN FLAG

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Middle
School
Section

How a Bill Becomes a Law

Target Age Group: 6-8th grade students

Project Duration: 1-2 days

Objectives: Help students gain an understanding of how a bill becomes a law

Vocabulary/Concepts: Bill, sponsor/co-sponsor, hopper, clerk, committee, report a bill, consider a bill, amendment, vote, enrollment of a bill, veto, override

Materials: (1) Access to the following Web pages: How Laws Are Made, Hot Bills, THOMAS, (2) Legislation worksheet (provided in lesson plan)

Notes: As an enrichment activity, encourage students research the legislative process for Tennessee

1. Obtain a General Understanding of the Legislative Process

For a general overview of how a bill becomes a law, direct students to the How Laws are Made section of the Clerk website (<http://clerkkids.house.gov>)

2. Distribute and Complete Part I of Legislation Worksheet

In Part I of the worksheet, students will answer general questions about how a bill becomes a law. The questions were created from information contained in the "How Laws are Made" section of the Clerk website (<http://clerkkids.house.gov>)

3. Create a Simulated Bill

Either individually or in groups, direct students to create a bill of their own. You may also wish to have students present their bills to the class. Students should address the question, "Why is this bill important?"

4. Visit the THOMAS website (<http://thomas.loc.gov>) and Complete Part II of Worksheet

Students should then visit THOMAS to compare their simulated bills with real legislation. In Part II of the worksheet, students should record the similarities and differences between their self-created bills and actual bills proposed in Congress.

5. Visit the Hot Bills website and Select a Bill to Research

Direct students to select and research a bill of interest to them. You may wish to refer students to the Hot Bills website, a depository of topics listed by subject or popular title. Make sure students record the H.R./H.J./H.AMDT. number associated with their chosen bill.

6. Conduct Research Using THOMAS and Complete Part III of Worksheet

Once students have selected their bill and recorded the proper bill number, direct students back to THOMAS for further research. Students should type their bill number in the Bill Number search field to retrieve information about their bill. Then, have students complete Part III of the worksheet.



Name _____

LEGISLATION DITTO

Part I

1. How do you identify a bill that has originated in the House of Representatives?

2. What is a committee? Summarize a committee's role in the legislative process in three to four sentences.

3. Differentiate how the Senate and House handle time limits for a debate.

4. If the President decides to take no action on an enrolled bill, what happens to that bill? Why do you think the President would choose to take such an action?



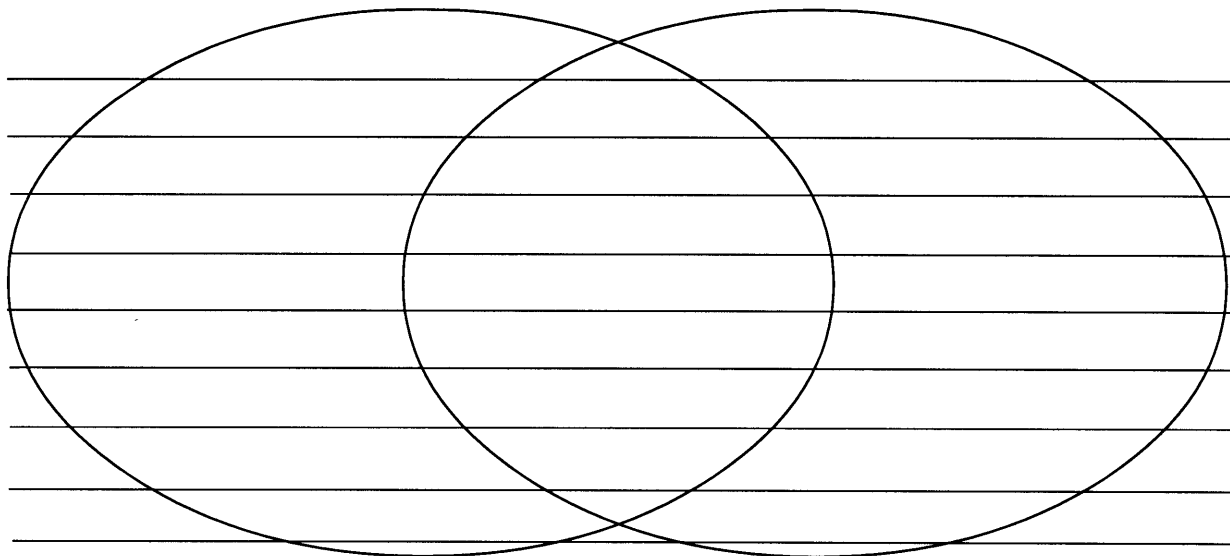
Name _____

LEGISLATION DITTO (page 2)

5. Do you find the steps on How a Bill Becomes a Law to be complete? Why or why not? What other information would you like to know about how laws are made?

Part II

Compare your simulated bill with an actual bill (in GPO .pdf format) found on the Thomas Web site. Complete the Ven Diagram below and be sure to include at least 4 similarities and differences.





Name _____

LEGISLATION DITTO (page 3)

Part III

Record the information about your researched bill in the space below

Bill Topic: _____

Bill No. _____ Originating Chamber: _____

Short Title: _____

Read the Thomas Summary for the bill. What is the main idea behind your bill?

Which committee(s) are involved with this bill?

What was the last major action taken on this bill? Was this bill signed into law?

Why did you select this bill to investigate?

Write to Your Representative

Target Age Group: 3rd-6th grade students

Project Duration: 1-2 days

Objectives: Teach children how to identify and contact their Representative and how to address a letter or an email message to their Representative.

Materials: Computer with internet access, letter paper or email access

1. Identify Your Representative

Students will need to know their state and ZIP code to correctly identify their Representative. Once this information is gathered, visit the Write Your Representative feature on the House website and follow the instructions on the page. When the form is submitted, the students' Representative and Congressional district will be identified.

2. Determine Method of Contact

Email: The Write Your Representative service allows students to send an email to their Representative. Simply complete the form that follows the identification of the Representative.

Regular Mail: Students can also send their Representative a letter via regular mail to either their Representative's district or Washington DC office. To obtain mailing addresses, please refer students to their Member's website. You can find a list of Member Web services on the House website.

3. Address a Member of Congress

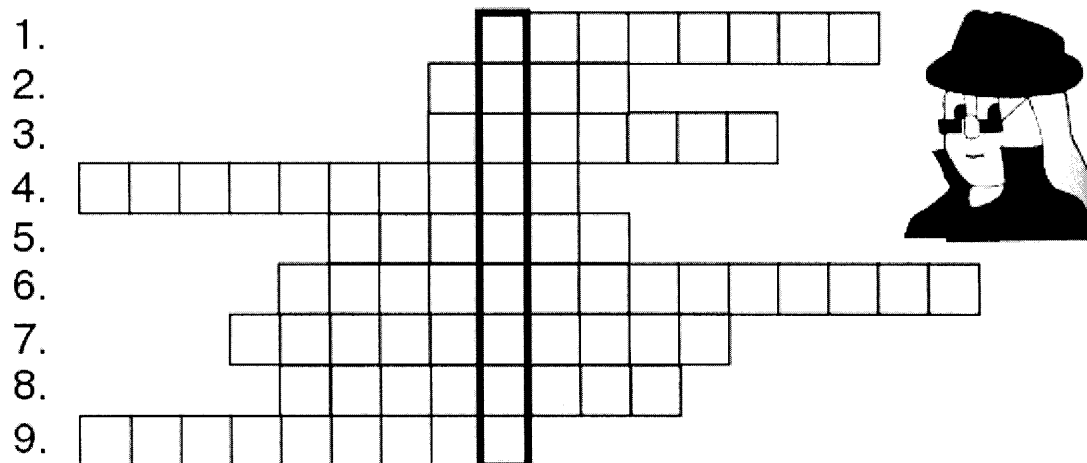
There are several correct forms of address for a Member of Congress including "The Honorable" and "Representative". Please note that the Write Your Representative service automatically places the salutation for the Member so students do not need to enter this information.

4) Write body of letter, close, and send letter

Depending on your education objectives, students should express their concerns, questions, and/or comments in the body and then close the letter. If students are using the Write Your Representative feature, they can press the "Send your Message" button to submit their letter. Otherwise students can send the letter via regular mail.

Ben's Mystery Word Puzzle

Ben needs to send a secret word to his fellow patriots. He has hidden it in this puzzle. To find the mystery word, write the answers to each clue in the blanks provided. The highlighted boxes, which contain the key letters, will spell out the secret word.



1. The U.S. Capitol is located in the _____ of Columbia. (8 letters, key = 1st letter)
2. The President can do this to prevent a bill from becoming a law. (4 letters, key = 2nd letter)
3. The House of Representatives does this when members believe the President is guilty. (7 letters, key = 2nd letter)
4. Representation in the House of Representatives is based on this. (10 letters, key = 9th letter)
5. A system of _____ and balances prevents each branch of government from gaining too much power. (6 letters, key = 4th letter)
6. The process by which people from foreign countries become U.S. citizens. (14 letters, key = 5th letter)
7. System that divides power between the national government and state governments. (10 letters, key = 6th letter)
8. The Supreme Court reviews laws to make sure they do not conflict with the Constitution. This process is called _____ review. (8 letters, key = 5th letter)
9. Guam, American Samoa, and Puerto Rico are each an example of a _____. (9 letters, key = 9th letter)

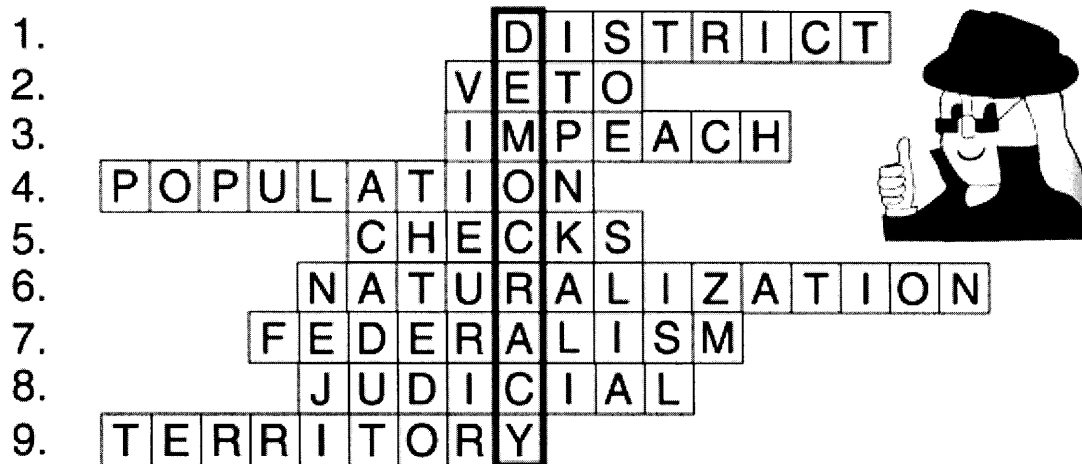
Stumped? Here are the answers.

A service of the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office.

Last updated: January 14, 2000
Page Name: <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/6-8/games/acrostic.html>



Ben's Mystery Word Puzzle Answers



1. The U.S. Capitol is located in the _____ of Columbia. **DISTRICT**
2. The President can do this to prevent a bill from becoming a law. **VETO**
3. The House of Representatives does this when members believe the President is guilty. **IMPEACH**
4. Representation in the House of Representatives is based on this. **POPULATION**
5. A system of _____ and balances prevents each branch of government from gaining too much power. **CHECKS**
6. The process by which people from foreign countries become U.S. citizens. **NATURALIZATION**
7. System which divides power between national and state governments. **FEDERAL**
8. The Supreme Court reviews laws to make sure they do not conflict with the Constitution, a process called _____ review. **JUDICIAL**
9. Guam, American Samoa, and Puerto Rico are examples of this. **TERRITORY**

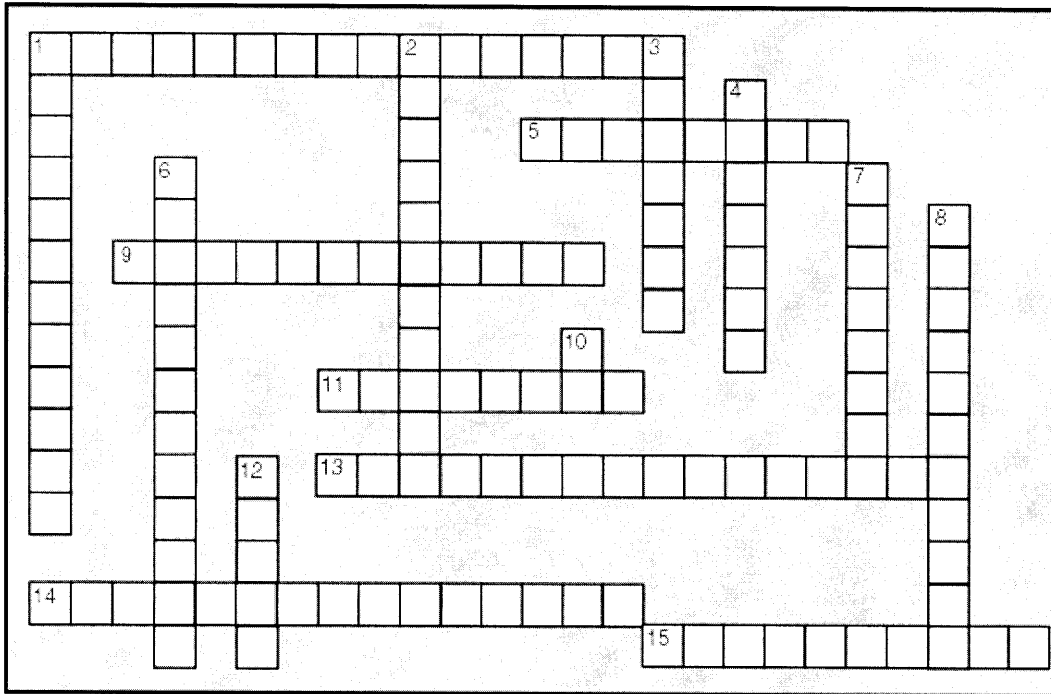
The secret word is **DEMOCRACY**.

A service of the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office.

Last updated: October 16, 2000
Page Name: http://bensguide.gpo.gov/6-8/games/acrostic_answers.html



Constitution Crossword



ACROSS

1. Place where the original Constitution can be viewed. (16 letters)
5. First state to ratify the Constitution. (8 letters)
9. Fearing tyranny from a strong central government, some states demanded this be added to the Constitution. (12 letters)
11. He is known as the "Sage of the Constitutional Convention." (8 letters)
13. These essays were written to defend and promote the ratification of the new Constitution. (16 letters)
14. Name given to the group who did not favor ratification of the Constitution. (15 letters)
15. This amendment was repealed. (10 letters)

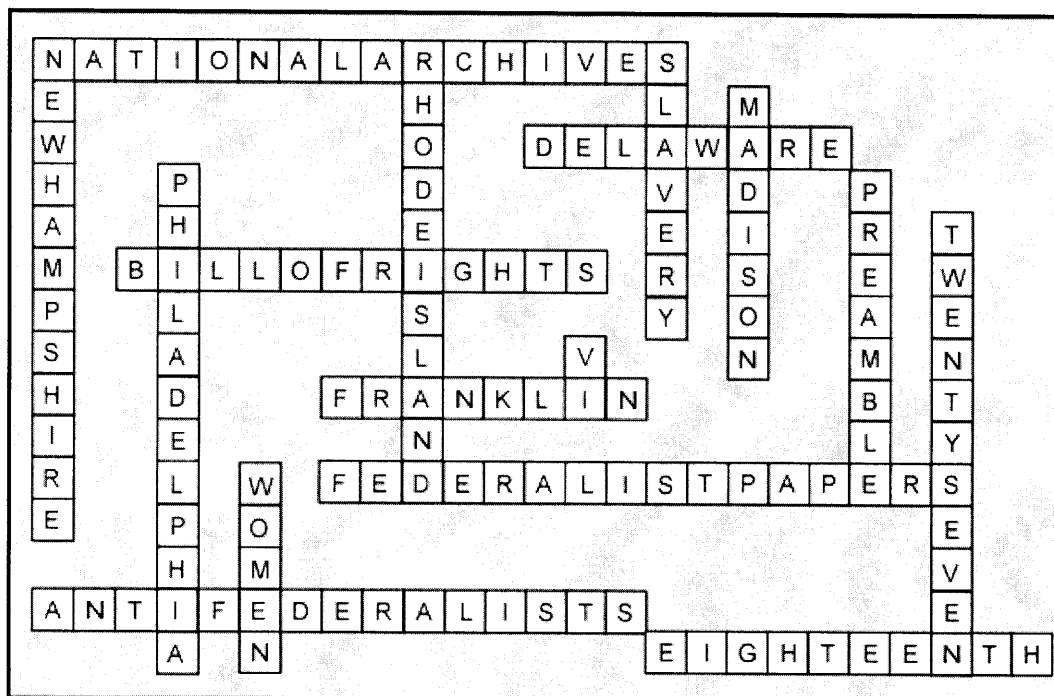
DOWN

1. This state's signing ratified the Constitution. (12 letters)
2. State that did not send delegates to the Constitutional Convention. (11 letters)
3. The 13th Amendment abolished . (7 letters)
4. He introduced the Bill of Rights in the House of Representatives on June 8, 1789. (7 letters).
6. The Constitutional Convention met in this city. (12 letters)
7. The part of the Constitution where you find the phrase "in order to form a more perfect union." (8 letters)
8. Number of amendments to the Constitution. (11 letters)
10. Article that establishes the Constitution as the supreme law of the country. (2 letters)
12. The Nineteenth Amendment protects the voting rights of . (5 letters)

Stumped? Here are the answers.

A service of the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office.

Constitution Crossword Answers



ACROSS

1. Place where the original Constitution can be viewed. **National Archives**
5. First state to ratify the Constitution. **Delaware**
9. Fearing tyranny from a strong central government, some states demanded this be added to the Constitution. **Bill of Rights**
11. He is known as the "Sage of the Constitutional Convention." **Franklin**
13. These essays were written to defend and promote the ratification of the new Constitution. **Federalist Papers**
14. Name given to the group who did not favor ratification of the Constitution. **Anti-Federalists**
15. This amendment was repealed. **Eighteenth**

DOWN

1. This state's signing ratified the Constitution. **New Hampshire**
2. State that did not send delegates to the Constitutional Convention. **Rhode Island**
3. The 13th Amendment abolished. **Slavery**
4. He introduced the Bill of Rights in the House of Representatives on June 8, 1789. **Madison**
6. The Constitutional Convention met in this city. **Philadelphia**
7. The part of the Constitution where you find the phrase "in order to form a more perfect union." **Preamble**
8. Number of amendments to the Constitution. **Twenty-Seven**
10. Article that establishes the Constitution as the supreme law of the country. **VI**
12. The Nineteenth Amendment protects the voting rights of. **Women**

A service of the Superintendent of Documents, [U.S. Government Printing Office](http://bensguide.gpo.gov/9-12/games/crossword_answers.html).

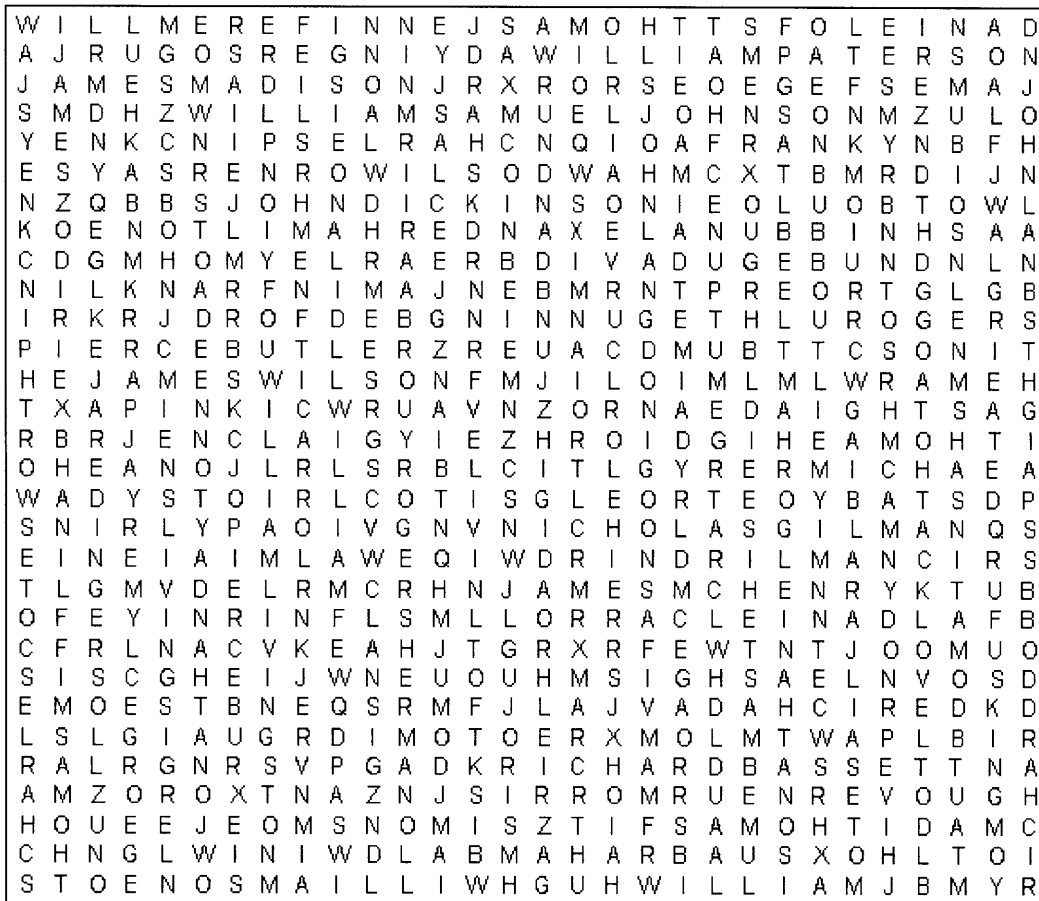
Last updated: December 1, 1999

Page Name: http://bensguide.gpo.gov/9-12/games/crossword_answers.html



Signers of the Constitution Word Search

Thirty-nine of the fifty-five delegates to the Constitutional Convention signed the Constitution.
Find the names of these men by looking forwards, backwards, and diagonally.



Abraham Baldwin
 Alexander Hamilton
 Benjamin Franklin
 Charles Pinckney
 Charles Cotesworth Pinckney
 Daniel Carroll
 Daniel of St. Thomas Jennifer
 David Brearley
 George Clymer
 George Read
 George Washington
 Gouverneur Morris
 Gunning Bedford, Jr.

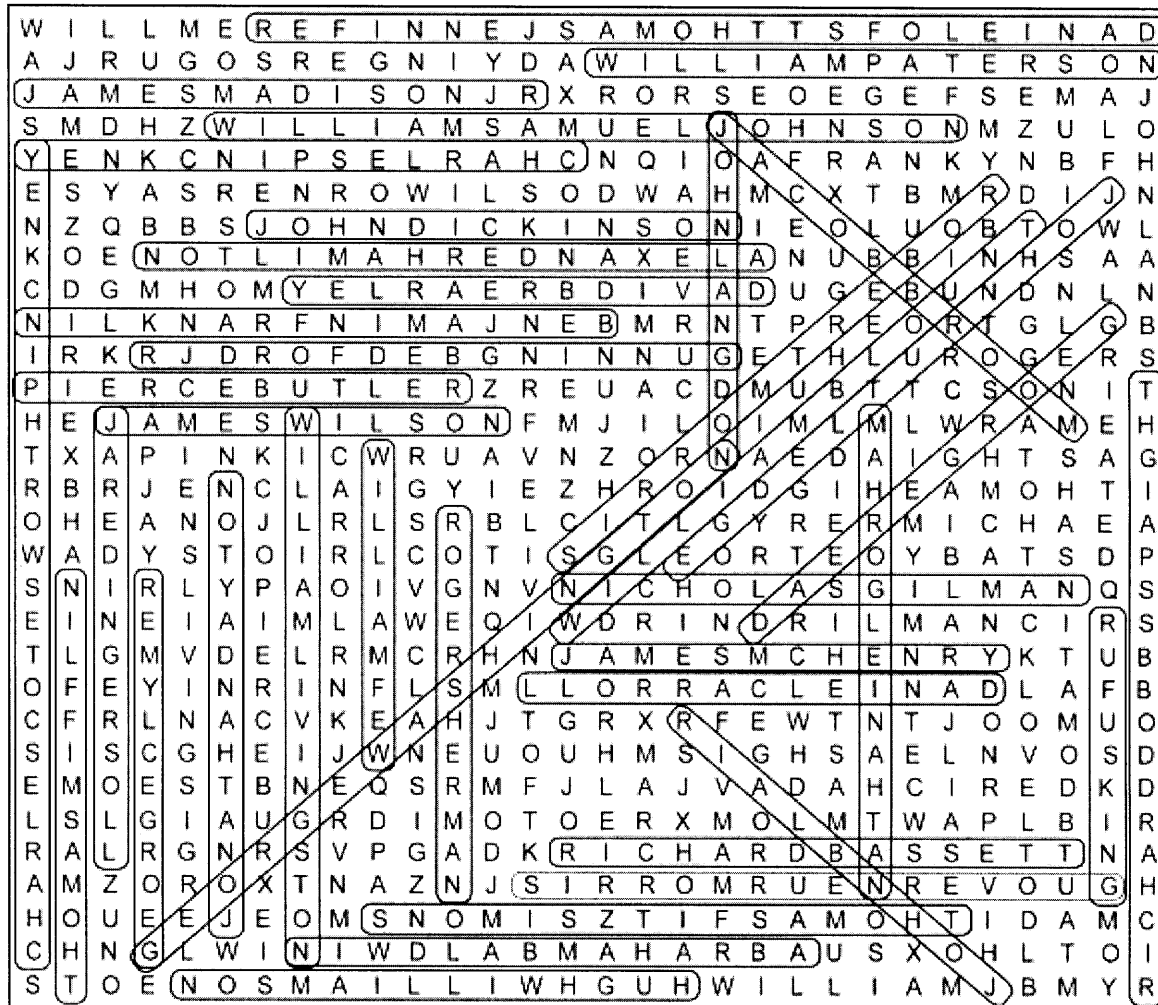
Hugh Williamson
 Jacob Broom
 James McHenry
 James Madison, Jr.
 James Wilson
 Jared Ingersoll
 John Blair
 John Dickinson
 John Langdon
 John Rutledge
 Jonathan Dayton
 Nathaniel Gorham
 Nicholas Gilman

Pierce Butler
 Richard Bassett
 Richard Dobbs Spaight
 Robert Morris
 Roger Sherman
 Rufus King
 Thomas Fitzsimons
 Thomas Mifflin
 William Blount
 William Few
 William Livingston
 William Paterson
 William Samuel Johnson

Stumped? Ah ha, Ben hid them well! If you must, here are the answers.

A service of the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office.

Signers of the Constitution Word Search Answers



A service of the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office.

Last updated: December 1, 1999

Page Name: http://bensguide.gpo.gov/9-12/games/wordsearch_answers.html

