



WE THE PEOPLE CONSTITUTION TOUR

Teacher Resource Guide
2010-2011



Dear Middle School Educators:

We are very pleased you and your students will be joining us on our *We the People Constitution Tour* for eighth-grade students in DCPS and D.C. Public Charter Schools. We think it is a great tour that offers outstanding educational experiences for students.

The booklet in hand is our **Teacher Resource Guide** created with the help of DCPS teachers to accompany the tour. It contains information about the tour, suggestions for activities that may be done with your students pre and/or post tour, and some general resources we hope will inspire you to create your own activities and projects.

The suggestions and activities in this guide are all related to the *We the People Constitution Tour* and, of course, to the U.S Constitution. We think they make a nice supplement to the tour experience. None of them, however, **must** be done prior to or following the tour. Rather they are offered to enhance the teaching you are already doing in your classroom around the Constitution. Please use them as you feel is appropriate.

When your students board the trolley on the day of their tour, we will give each of them a *We the People Constitution Tour Student Guide*. This guide contains activities to be completed during the tour or later after the tour is over. The activities are designed to help the students synthesize information that they gather throughout the day. Each student will be able to take his/her Student Guide home at the conclusion of the tour.

The tour and its accompanying activities for students complement the DCPS Social Studies and English/Language Arts Standards.

We are always looking for ways to improve what we do. We welcome any comments you may have about our Teacher Resource guide. If you have lesson plans or activities related to the Constitution that you have found especially helpful, please send them to us.

Thank you again for booking a *We the People Constitution Tour*. We are looking forward to doing the tour with you and your students!

Best regards,

The *We the People* Consortium

WE THE PEOPLE CONSTITUTION TOUR

Teacher Resource Guide
2010-2011



CONTENTS

Important Tour Information

• Sites on Your Tour	4
• Tour Information	5
• Curriculum Connections.....	9

About Article I: The Legislative Branch

• How Laws Are Made: Background Information.....	12
• How Laws Are Made: A Visual Representation.....	13
• The United States Capitol: A Student Worksheet One.....	14
• The United States Capitol: A Student Worksheet Two.....	15
• The United States Capitol: Learning More.....	16

About Article II: The Executive Branch

• Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr. Speech Excerpts and Connections: A Student Worksheet.....	18
• Lafayette Park, A First Amendment Site: Background Information.....	19
• Lafayette Park, A First Amendment Site: A Student Activity	21
• The White House: Learning More	22

About Article III: The Judicial Branch

• Studying a Famous Case: A Student Worksheet	24
• The Court System: The Third Branch of Government.....	25
• The Court System: A Student Worksheet.....	26

The National Archives & Records Administration

• Home of the Constitution: A Student Worksheet	28
• Home of the Constitution: Learning More	29

Related Activities

• The Preamble to the Constitution: A Student Worksheet.....	32
• Vocabulary Bingo Teacher Instructions.....	33
• Vocabulary Bingo Game Board.....	34
• Graphic Organizer.....	35
• Constitution Bingo	36
• Word Search.....	37
• Brown v. Board of Education: A Dramatic Reading	38
• Interactive Vocabulary Challenge	40
• Trivia Challenge.....	41
• More Pre-Post Tour Activities	43

Resources	46
------------------------	----

Accept the

**WE THE PEOPLE
CONSTITUTION
TOUR**

Challenge

**BRING THE
CONSTITUTION TO
LIFE!**

Compete with other DCPS and DC Public Charter Middle Schools and find out how students all over the city are involved with the U.S. Constitution.

The school that earns the most points WINS!

All of the activities in your Teacher Resource Guide can be part of the *We the People* Challenge.

Learn more about this exciting challenge for participating schools at:

**www.uschs.org/wethepeople or call Justin Rydstrom @ 202-281-0001,
Dee Hoffman @ 301-309-6601 or tell your Cousin Sam
when you take the tour.**

Keep the investigation going. Learn more ways the Constitution is relevant to everyday life today. Share what you have learned with other students/teachers in D.C. Earn the most points and win the Challenge!



This Teachers Guide has been prepared to accompany the *We the People* Constitution Tour in Washington, D.C.

Primary Writer

Amy Trenkle
 Eighth Grade U.S. History Teacher
 Stuart-Hobson Middle School
 D.C. Public Schools

Contributing Writers and Reviewers

We the People Consortium

Melissa Meck

Seventh and Eighth Grade Social Studies Teacher
 Barbara Jordan Public Charter School
 D.C. Public Charter School

Cynthia Mostoller

Eighth Grade U.S. History and Geography Teacher
 Alice Deal Middle School
 D.C. Public Schools

Members of the *We the People* Consortium

Felicia Bell, Director of Education and Outreach, *U.S. Capitol Historical Society*
 Abe Burgos, Safety Office, *Old Town Trolley Tours of Washington*
 David Cohen, General Manager, *Old Town Trolley Tours of Washington*
 Rebecca Evans, VP of Development, *U.S. Capitol Historical Society*
 Rebecca Fanning, National Outreach Manager for the Federal Courts
 Dee Hoffman, President, *Children's Concierge, LLC*
 Steve Livengood, Public Programs Director, *U.S. Capitol Historical Society*
 Rebecca Martin, Volunteer and Tour Coordinator, *National Archives and Records Administration*
 Lee Ann Potter, Head of Education and Volunteer Programs, *National Archives and Records Administration*
 Stuart Resnick, General Manager, *Sodexo*
 John Riley, Director of Education and Scholarship Programs, *White House Historical Association*
 Justin Rydstrom, Program Manager, *Center for Civic Education*

Sponsors of the *We the People* Constitution Tour

Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation
 The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
 International Paper
 Verizon Communications

With Special Thanks

The *We the People* Consortium thanks the Social Studies administrators and teachers in the Washington, D.C. Public and Public Charter Schools for their assistance in bringing this program to the eighth grade students in their schools.

Graphic Design: Cari Colclough
 Printing: Spectrum Printing & Graphics

© 2010 *We the People* Consortium. All rights reserved.

WE THE PEOPLE CONSORTIUM MEMBERS:



TOUR SPONSORS:

