



# WE THE PEOPLE CONSTITUTION TOUR

**THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES & RECORDS ADMINISTRATION**

Home of the Constitution: A Student Worksheet

Visiting the National Archives



# About the National Archives and Records Administration

## Home of the Constitution: A Student Worksheet

Use what you saw at the National Archives Building and what your guide there told you. Then answer the questions below.



1. Why is it so dark in the Rotunda of the National Archives Building?
2. How many pages are there in the Constitution of the United States?
3. What is one thing that surprised you when you saw the Constitution?
4. What changes were made to the Constitution to ensure basic rights to the citizens of the United States?
5. In the painting above, who is the central figure (circled)?

Why is this man placed as the central figure in this painting?

What would he think about the way he is portrayed here?

6. Name another document in the National Archives that has something to do with the U.S. Constitution.

# About the National Archives and Records Administration

Home of the Constitution: Learning More



## Visiting the National Archives and Records Administration

Educators frequently use the National Archives and Records Administration to develop primary-source, document-based lesson plans and to help bring history alive for their students. Many students use the Archives for research projects. While researchers must be at least 14 years old to conduct research at the National Archives' facilities, all ages can use the National Archives web site to find information. All ages may visit the National Archives in Washington, D.C. and nationwide.

### You can visit the National Archives here in Washington, D.C. and nationwide to:

- View exhibits of historical records and presidential papers:
  - The Public Vaults and the Charters of Freedom (the Declaration of Independence, The Constitution, and the Bill of Rights), located in Washington, D.C.
  - Exhibits about American Presidents (each one since Herbert Hoover) in the Presidential Libraries.
  - Records of local importance to geographical regions of America in regional facilities.
- Request records for your examination in our research rooms. Please note: Records are located in specific facilities. Learn about how to determine which records are located where. ([www.archives.gov/locations/where-records-are.html](http://www.archives.gov/locations/where-records-are.html))
- Attend public programs, including film presentations, workshops, and lectures. For local D.C. events see the Washington D.C. Calendar of Events. ([www.archives.gov/dc-metro/events/](http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/events/)). For events around the country, see the calendars for each National Archives facility. ([www.archives.gov/calendar/](http://www.archives.gov/calendar/))
- Review proposed Federal rules and regulations at the Federal Register, which is part of the National Archives and is located in Washington, D.C. ([www.archives.gov/federal-register/](http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/))
- In D.C. bring your class to participate in the Archives' *Constitution-in-Action Lab* in the Boeing Learning Lab. For reservations contact the Education Team ([learninglab@nara.gov](mailto:learninglab@nara.gov)) or register online at ([www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)).

### Examples of what you can find at the National Archives:

- President Ronald Reagan's speech card from remarks made in Berlin, Germany in June 1987 (when the infamous Berlin Wall was still standing), which is marked up to indicate points of emphasis.
- Photographs of child labor conditions at the turn of the 19th century. Children did everything from selling newspapers to shucking oysters to make a few pennies.
- The Zimmerman Telegram, named for German foreign minister Arthur Zimmermann, secretly offered U.S. lands to Mexico in exchange for Mexican support during World War I. The British were able to decipher the code. The telegram helped convince the United States to enter the war in 1917.
- The arrest warrant for Lee Harvey Oswald, the man who was accused of assassinating President John F. Kennedy in Dallas, Texas.

**Location:** 700 Pennsylvania, NW

**Telephone:** 1-866-272-6272 or 1-86-NARA-NARA

**Hours:** Spring & Summer (March 15 - Labor Day) 10:00 am - 7:00 pm Daily  
Fall & Winter (Day after Labor Day - March 14) 10:00 am - 5:30 pm Daily  
Last admission 30 minutes prior to closing.  
Closed Thanksgiving Day and December 25

**Subway:** Navy Memorial/Archives on the Yellow/Green Line

**Website:** [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)