

Social Studies

Chapter 8 Notes

Lesson 1:

Shay's Rebellion: Made some people think that the national government was weak and could not protect them.

Constitutional Convention of 1787: Delegates met to fix the Articles of Confederation

- Disagreed about how each state would be represented in the new Congress

- Great Compromise:

Congress would have 2 houses:

1. Representation based on each state's population

2. Equal representation from each state

- Both houses could propose a bill, but only the house with representation based on population could propose tax bills

Federal system: The national and state governments share the power to govern

Republic: a form of government where the people choose representatives to govern the country

Lesson 2:

Gouverneur Morris: chosen to write the Preamble to the Constitution

3 Branches of Government:

1. Legislative Branch: (Congress: House of Representatives, Senate) makes all national laws, can impeach the President, and votes on whether to approve appointments of Supreme court justices
2. Executive Branch: (President) has the power to enforce laws and to veto bills passed by Congress
3. Judicial Branch: (Supreme Court) decides whether laws follow the Constitution

Lesson 3:

Ratify: to approve

First Ten Amendments: added to the constitution shortly after it was ratified to protect the rights of the people

- 1st Amendment - gives people:
 - Freedom of religion
 - Freedom of speech
 - Freedom of the press
 - Freedom to petition the government
 - Right to assemble

***Make sure you know how to read a population map, such as the one on p341

Lesson 4:

Checks and balances: keeps any one branch from becoming too powerful