LESSON MAKER PRO

Constitution in Action

Use cards to trace powers, rights, and citizen actions.

GRADE 5 · 5.C.6

5.C.6 "Describe the structure and responsibilities of the United States of America's system of government and the role of the individual citizen, as provided in the Constitution of the United States of America..."

NAME _____ **DATE** _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1. Use facts you know. Say when you are unsure.
2. Let each person finish speaking.
3. You may agree, disagree, or keep your view.
4. Play a MOVE card only after you use its starter.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Make two copies of the MOVE cards. Form a group of three or four and set an 8-minute timer.
2. Choose one TOPIC card. Each player takes a ROLE card. With three players, share the fourth job.
3. Deal four MOVE cards to each player. Keep your cards until you use them.
4. Discuss the topic. Finish a starter aloud, then place that MOVE card in the middle.
5. In the final minute, share what you agree on, what is still open, or why you still hold a view. Stop at 8 minutes. Unused cards stay unplayed.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

- [ ] I named a power held by a branch or government.
- [ ] I connected the topic to a constitutional rule or right.
- [ ] I explained a way to question or limit government power.
- [ ] I described how a citizen can take part.

Cut along the dashed lines

TOPIC CARDS · pick one per round

TOPIC

River Protection Bill

Congress votes on a bill to protect rivers that cross state lines. How could the three branches help make or check this law?

TOPIC

Signs in Parks

A city bans all signs at a peaceful gathering in a public park. How could citizens use their rights to question this rule?

TOPIC

Tribal Land Rules

A Tribal government makes rules for its land, and a Tribal citizen is also a U.S. citizen. How can Tribal self-government and U.S. citizenship both matter here?

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE

Power Scout

Listen for which government or branch has the power to act.

ROLE

Rule Finder

Listen for a right or a rule from the Constitution that fits the topic.

ROLE

Check Spotter

Listen for ways people or another part of government can question or limit an action.

ROLE

Citizen Connector

Listen for ways citizens can take part or use their rights.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD

NAME POWER

"A government power used here is ____."

MOVE CARD

NAME POWER

"A government power used here is ____."

MOVE CARD

CONNECT CONSTITUTION

"The Constitution matters here because ____."

MOVE CARD

CONNECT CONSTITUTION

"The Constitution matters here because ____."

MOVE CARD

FIND CHECK

"One way this action can be checked is ____."

MOVE CARD

FIND CHECK

"One way this action can be checked is ____."

MOVE CARD

CITIZEN ACTION

"A citizen can take part by ____."

MOVE CARD

CITIZEN ACTION

"A citizen can take part by ____."

Cards last longer on thick paper.

Constitution in Action

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Run one topic per 8-minute round, using two copies of the MOVE cards so four players can each receive four. Roles are listening jobs, not required speaking turns. If participation is uneven, invite a quieter player to use a card without requiring anyone to invent a disagreement or play every card.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Maya	A government power used here is Congress voting on a bill about rivers that cross state lines.
Leo	The Constitution matters here because it gives Congress the power to make federal laws.
Nia	One way this action can be checked is the President vetoing the bill before it becomes law.
Maya	One way this action can be checked is Congress voting to override the veto with two-thirds of each house.
Leo	A citizen can take part by telling elected members of Congress what they think about the bill.

LISTEN FOR

- Names Congress, the President, or the courts and describes each one's relevant job accurately.
- Connects the park rule to First Amendment speech or peaceful assembly rights.
- Recognizes that a Tribal government can make rules for its land and determine Tribal citizenship.
- Gives a real citizen action or a specific way government power can be checked.

There are no right answers to the topic cards. Score the moves students make, not their opinions.