

Constitution Builder

Read how James Madison helped shape the Constitution.

2.7.f "James Madison (known as the "Father of the Constitution");"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the name people called James Madison. Then underline two details that show why he earned that name.

James Madison at Work

- ① After the American Revolution, the new United States needed rules for its government. In 1787, leaders met in Philadelphia to write the Constitution. James Madison came ready to help. He had studied governments and brought many ideas to the meeting.
- ② Madison took careful notes during the meeting. He spoke about ways to make the new government work. He helped shape plans that became part of the Constitution. Other leaders listened, debated, and changed ideas together before they agreed on the final document.
- ③ Because Madison did so much to prepare and guide the work, people later called him the Father of the Constitution. The Constitution is still an important plan for the United States government. Madison did not write it alone, but his work was very important.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What name did people later call James Madison?

2 Name two ways Madison helped at the meeting.

3 Why was Madison called the Father of the Constitution?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a two-sentence museum label about James Madison. In the first sentence, use the name people called him. In the second sentence, tell how his work helped with the Constitution.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the name people called James Madison. Then underline two details that show why he earned that name. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What name did people later call James Madison?	the Father of the Constitution
2	Name two ways Madison helped at the meeting.	Answers may include: he studied governments, brought ideas, took notes, spoke about how the government could work, or helped shape plans for the Constitution.
3	Why was Madison called the Father of the Constitution?	He did much to prepare and guide the work, and he helped shape plans that became part of the Constitution.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

James Madison is called the Father of the Constitution. He studied governments, brought ideas, and helped shape plans for the new government.

Accept the exact nickname, Father of the Constitution. For the museum label, accept two accurate sentences that name Madison's title and describe at least one way he helped.