Class Guide

Lesson 7 - What was the first national government like?

What do you think is the most important responsibility of a National government?

Step 1 – Bell Work – Thinking Exercise. Get into small groups of 2 to 4. What responsibilities do you think the National government would have that Local governments would not? Be prepared to discuss with the whole class.

Step 2 – Vocabulary Work. Complete the vocabulary work necessary to understand this lesson. The vocabulary should be completed first. Terms to know:

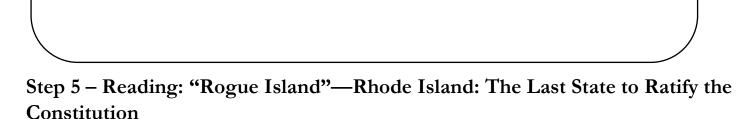
Articles of Confederation	Confederation	Delegate	Northwest Ordinance
	Ordinance	Shays' Rebellion	

Step 3 – Interactive Lecture. Answer the questions during the class discussion.

What kind of national government did the founder's create under the Articles of Confederation? Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia in 1775 *Acted as the first government of the United States *Created an army and asked George Washington to lead it *Managed the war against Great Britain *Approved the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 *Also asked the 13 states to develop a government plan	Which do you think was more important to the Second Continental Congress, setting up a national government or fighting the war against Great Britain?
How did the Articles of Confederation organize the first national government? Congress did develop a plan for a national government called the Articles of Confederation Loose confederation of states with equal powers The people feared a strong national government The people also feared that some states would have more power than other states	Why do you think the people feared a strong national government?
How did the Articles of Confederation organize the first national government? Fears influenced the Founders who wrote the Articles of Confederation Set up a weak national government with very limited powers No National Courts No true Executive	What does it say about the Articles of Confederation that it did not have a true executive?
How did the Articles of Confederation organize the first national government? *Weak national government with very limited powers *Congress could not tax the states or its people *Congress had to ask for money *Each state had one vote; population did not matter *Laws required 9 of 13 for approval *Amendments required all 13 states approve	Why do you think that the Articles required ALL thirteen states approve any amendment?

Step 4 – Interactive Lecture Thinking Question. Answer the question below based on the previous lecture.

Was the people's fear of a strong national government and lack of a true executive connected? Explain your thoughts either way.



Reading 1: "Rogue Island": Rhode Island: The last state to ratify the Constitution.

In 1781, Rhode Island began acquiring michannes.

By 1781, Rhode Island was referred to in secupapers as "Rogue Island". Rogue Island was till used to refer to Rhode Island at the Constitutional Convention in 1781 when it reflicted to send delegates. The press was started when Rhode Island was tell constitution in 1781 when it reflict to send delegates. The press was started when Rhode Island vetteed an act passed by Congress under the Articles of Confederation and its general refunal to attend Articles of Confederation Congressional meetings making it impossible to amend the Articles.

Introncially, Rhode Island was treated to making of the Constitution it strongly opposed. In 1786, Rhode Island elected to a stational government.

Rhode Island printed so much paper currency it made the paper quessage nearly worthless. It became a national symbol of one of the major weaknesses of the Articles. No tata was more serviced than Rhode Island at the Constitutional Convention in 1787—the only no-show.

The Rhode Island's state legislature rejected II attempts to satify the Constitution from September 1787 and January 1790.

Congress met for the first time in March 1789 without Rhode Island; that next September the Governor of Rhode Island was to Congress stating the people of Rhode Island was to locate the principles of the old Confederation. The governor stated the people wanted "further checks and securities" limiting federal power, before "they could adopt it."

By 1790, Congress had lost patience with "Rogue Island". Congress threatened to treat Rhode Island as a foreign anation. The Governor phaded with Congress is to treat them as a foreign country and asked for an extension to the ratification. Rhode Island encohart ratifying convenience.

Congress acted when the March convention did not ratify the Constitution. In early May 1790, the Senate passed a hill to problet commercial trade with Rhode Island objects to then new Constit

Read the short history of Rhode Island's journey to ratify the Constitution. Complete the comprehension questions at the bottom of the page when you are finished.

Step 6 – Interactive Lecture. Answer the questions during the class discussion.

What was accomplished under the Articles of Why do you think the national government needs to make a peace treaty with another country? THE ARTICLES DID HAVE SOME SUCCESSES Kept the states together during the War for INDEPENDENCE Made the peace treaty with Great Britain Prevented States from conducting its own foreign AFFAIRS, TREATIES, AND DECLARATIONS OF WAR What was accomplished under the Articles of Why you think it was important to add new states rather than for the original 13 states to make colonies on the lands to the west? THE ARTICLES DID HAVE SOME SUCCESSES Passed the Northwest Ordinance in 1787 Provided a Plan to ADD NEW STATES ALLOWED FOR WHAT IS NOW OHIO, INDIANA, ILLINOIS. MICHIGAN, WISCONSIN AND PART OF MINNESOTA TO **ORGANIZE THEIR OWN GOVERNMENTS** What was accomplished under the Articles of Why do you think that the Northwest Territories provided for public education when the rest of the Union did not also fund THE ARTICLES DID HAVE SOME SUCCESSES (CONTINUED) public education? *WHEN A TERRITORY HAD A LARGE ENOUGH POPULATION IT COULD JOIN THE UNION. THE NEW STATES WERE EOUALS OF THE ORIGINAL STATES. THE ORDINANCE REQUIRED PUBLIC LANDS FOR EDUCATION What was accomplished under the Articles of Why you think that the Confederation Congress did not allow Confederation? slavery in the Territories, but did not ban slavery anywhere else THE ARTICLES DID HAVE SOME SUCCESSES (CONTINUED) in the Union? IT ALSO MADE SLAVERY UNLAWFUL IN THE TERRITORIES THE ORDINANCE ALSO GUARANTEED FREEDOM OF RELIGION. SPEECH, AND PRESS Why you think that the Confederation Congress did not allow What problems did the national government have under the Articles of Confederation? slavery in the Territories, but did not ban slavery anywhere else After the Revolution ended, each state acted as its in the Union? **OWN COUNTRY** PEOPLE DID NOT THINK OF THEMSELVES AS AMERICANS: THEY IDENTIFIED AS A CITIZEN OF THEIR STATE States did not cooperate with each other to solve **PROBLEMS**

Step 7 – Interactive Lecture Summary. Look over your Step 6 lecture slides. What are the 3 most important accomplishments of the Articles:

1.	
2.	
3.	

Step 8 – Interactive Lecture. Answer the questions during the class discussion.

What problems did the national government have under the Articles of Confederation? • After the Revolution ended, each state acted as its own country • People did not think of themselves as Americans; they identified as a citizen of their state • States did not cooperate with each other to solve problems	Why do you think that people after winning the Revolutionary War did not identify themselves as Americans?
What problems did the national government have under the Articles of Confederation? The Articles government was weak The Articles did not unite the states It lacked money and the authority to tax There were no courts to settle disputes between states	Do you think the national government was weak under the Articles? Why or why not?
What problems did the national government have under the Articles of Confederation? By 1786, Little trade between states or with other nations It was hard for Americans to make a living Many businesses were failing People were in debt Soldiers who had fought in the Revolution still had not been paid	Which of these problems do you think posed the greatest threat to the Union?

Step 9 – Thinking Question. Why do you think the Articles Congress just didn't amend the Articles constitution to fix the problems? *Think ©

Step 10 - Reading: "Shays' Rebellion: The Catalyst for a New Constitution"

