



## **Sixth Grade Civics Class Inquiry-Based Assessment Questions**

**Theme:** Foundations of Government

**Standards covered:** 6.4

The U.S. Constitution begins with a preamble explaining the purpose of the Constitution and government. What is the purpose of government?

- What basic ideas about government are included in the Preamble to the Constitution and why was it important to explicitly list them?
- Which principle of government in the Preamble is the most important? Why?

Sample Follow Up Questions

- Why do you think the first words of the Preamble “We the People” are so important? How would it be different if the Preamble begins with “We the States,” “We the Founders,” or something else?
- Does the rest of the Constitution seem to embody the ideas expressed in the Preamble?
- The Preamble contains the phrase “in order to form a more perfect union,” implying it isn’t perfect. What would you do to continue to make this a “more perfect union?”