Federalism and the Constitution: Grade 8 Lesson Plan

Flo Tigner

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Name: Flo Tigner
School: Roth Middle School
Grade Level: 8

Lesson Plan Title: Federalism and the Constitution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Area(s)</th>
<th>American History</th>
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<td>Learning Objectives</td>
<td>To demonstrate and understand the concept of Federalism. Identify the level of government at the national, local, and state level. To know that each level of government is responsible for a particular function. Students will realize that every citizen of Ohio and in the United States is subject to the laws at all three levels.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Benchmarks for the Ohio Academic Content Standards for Social Studies</th>
<th>Government</th>
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| Indicators for above Benchmarks of the Ohio Academic Content Standards for Social Studies | Government: A) Explain why people institute governments, how they influence governments, and how governments interact with each other/ Government. 
1. Analyze the principles of self government and natural rights expressed in their Declaration of Independence and the relationship to Enlightenment ideas/ Government. 
B) Explain how the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, including the Bill of Rights and the Northwest Ordinance have provided for the protection of rights, and the long term future of a growing democracy. 
4. Explain the political concepts expressed in the U.S. Constitution: 
A) Representative Democracy 
B) Federalism 
C) Bicameralism 
D) Separation of Powers 
E) Checks and Balances |

| Preparation for Teacher (Historical background that teacher must do to prepare for lesson) | The teacher will discuss Coining money, parking meters, and license plates (examples). Ask students which level of government is responsible for the above categories. Discuss and define what federalism means. Place that particular word on the board. Write division of powers. Discuss what the responsibilities are for the city of Dayton’s Mayor, Commissioner and City Manager. Speaker Commissioner Dean Lovelace http://www.cityofdayton.org/html/commissioner_lovelace.asp |

| Core Activities (Detail in steps with division of time) | Allow two 40 minute class periods. Examine the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution. Define the word |
### Overview of Student Activities
- How will you & your students be using technology?
- What learning strategies will be implemented? *(i.e., independent and or group work)*
- What products will be developed by students?
- What skill(s) *(Bloom’s Taxonomy)* is/are used in the activity(s)? *(in bold)*

1. Use overhead projector to explain the process of Federalism. Students will complete charts with overhead projector.
2. Read Federalism and the Constitution *(Ohio Citizen Book page 67)*.
3. Each student should have access to a copy of the Constitution.
4. Groups students into three categories: national, state, and local. Assign each group to come up with at least 6 powers for each level of government.
5. Have groups give reports on their level of government.
6. Prepare students for a field experience to the City Commission meeting. Commissioner Lovelace was able to visit our school twice this year. Students were able to ask questions relating to the duties of the City Commissioner. This enabled students to open a discussion on the election process, and served as a prelude to our city commission meeting visit.
7. Students will also visit the state capital in Columbus to visit the Ohio General Assembly.
8. Selected eighth graders will also visit the Wright Patterson Air Force Museum in Dayton Ohio. The museum is national government property.

### Resources/Materials
- List software, websites, references, etc.

*Ohio Citizen Book r590 Amsco School Publications Inc. 315 Hudson St., New York, New York 10013*

### Collaboration/Sharing
- How will this lesson support the interdisciplinary process?
- How will student products be showcased?

This lesson addresses 4 different field experiences. This would be a good interdisciplinary unit to share with a cluster. Students products will be showcased in our classrooms and hallways.

### Assessment
- How will student products and/or process be assessed?
- How will you communicate student expectation? Rubric?

Students will be assessed through oral demonstrations of how well they understand the Federalism concept, how well they address their groups and how the students respond to the different field experiences. This information will be on end of the year final. Group reports will also be assessed. The students will be graded according to the Dayton Board of Education grading scale:

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>F</td>
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