

Inspiration for a New Nation

Historical Documents and Their Impact on the Founders

Benchmark: SS.7.C.1.2 Trace the impact that the Magna Carta, English Bill of Rights, Mayflower Compact, and Thomas Paine’s Common Sense had on colonists’ views of government.

Clarifications/Objectives:

- Students will identify the important ideas contained in the Magna Carta, English Bill of Rights, Mayflower Compact, and Common Sense.
- Students will evaluate the impact that the Magna Carta, English Bill of Rights, Mayflower Compact, and Common Sense had on the purposes of government.

Time: One class period

Materials:

- Inspiration for a New Nation PowerPoint
- Blank sheet of paper (1 per student)
- Scissors
- Computer
- Projector

Lesson Preparation

- Review all handouts and PowerPoints
- Print and review the PowerPoint in “notes view”. The PowerPoint includes notes to guide the lesson.

Lesson Overview

Using the PowerPoint as a guide, have students make their foldable note-taker. Instruct students to take notes on the key concepts found in the four documents named as the PowerPoint progresses.

Warm Up Question: Where did the colonists and Founding Fathers get their ideas about government?
Discuss student responses.

Using the PowerPoint, guide the students through each document as they take notes on their foldable. Students should be notating the year the document was written, the key concepts found within the document, and any key quotes that would be helpful in reminding them of the concept.

Check for Understanding The final slide will include a question from the End of Course Exam Item Specifications book. Have the students independently write down their answer and ask student to explain how they made their decision.