## Online Book Club

### The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery

# Bring It To Life!

- 1. Establish your rights! Have your book club come up with your own Constitution or Bill of Rights. Let each person make up their own amendment and why they think it is important. You could also write a bill of rights for a big brother or a big sister. Think of rights that you want to have and that you think others should have as well.
- 2. Pretend that you are the president of the United States. Draw a picture of the way the White House would look if you were in office. Include any interesting rooms that you would add. Would you add an indoor pool? A trampoline room? What about a room full of jell-o?
- 3. Use the Internet to learn more about your favorite president. Find out about his childhood. Where was he born? Did he have any brothers or sisters or was he an only child? Did he have any pets? How did he become the president?
- 4. Make your own spy equipment out of everyday objects. You could make a telescope out of a paper towel roll. You could make secret x-ray sunglasses or a pen that writes in invisible ink.
- 5. Have a parade with your book club that celebrates our nation's history and capital. Make sure you wear red, white and blue! Carry flags and sing patriotic songs like the "Star Spangled Banner." You could even dress up like Uncle Sam!

## Online Information

### **The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery**

# Fascinating Facts The U.S. Constitution

- 1. Only 12 of the 13 states were represented at the Constitutional Convention. Rhode Island was the only state not to send anyone to the convention.
- 2. The Constitution was written in 1787 but did not become law until June 21, 1788 after two-thirds of the states ratified it. Not all the states had ratified it by April 30, 1789 when George Washington became the first president of the United States.
- 3. James Madison is known as the "Father of the Constitution."
- 4. When writing the Constitution, the delegates made sure that what went on inside the convention was a secret. Dirt was spread on the streets to muffle the sounds outside the Pennsylvania State House. There were even armed guards to protect the secrecy of the meetings!
- 5. The U.S. Constitution has 4,400 words. It is the oldest and shortest written constitution of any major government in the world.
- 6. Benjamin Franklin was in such poor health that he needed help to sign the Constitution. Tears ran down his face. He was 81 years old.
- 7. When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Constitution was moved from the National Archives to Fort Knox in Kentucky.
- 8. The word "democracy" does not appear once in the Constitution.
- 9. The United States' population was 4 million when the Constitution was signed. Today, the U.S. population is more than 300 million!



## Online Quiz

### **The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery**

# Pop Quiz

- 1. Who was the guest of honor on the bus ride to Washington, D.C.?
- 2. True or False? George Washington's dentures were made of whale bone.
- 3. Where did George Washington consider the real birthplace of the United States to be?
- 4. True or False? The door to the Preservation Room was unlocked.
- 5. How long did it take to complete the construction of the Washington Monument?
- 6. Which room in the White House was Mimi's favorite?
- 7. Who found Grant's missing Constitution?
- 8. What did Grant and Christina receive as a present for helping the government crack the case and catch the thief?



# Know your sat words!

#### **The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery**

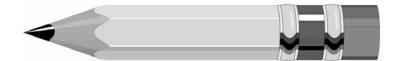
### **SAT Words**





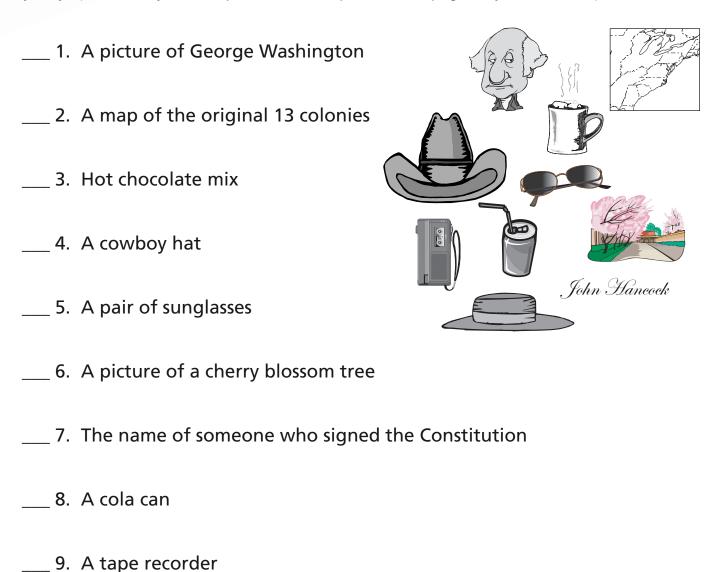
- 2. conversation
- 3. surveillance
- 4. enhance
- 5. commotion

Write a sensational sentence using all five SAT Words from this mystery.





Want to have some fun? Let's go on a scavenger hunt! Find the items below related to the mystery. (*Teachers: you have permission to reproduce this page for your students.*)



10. A red hat

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# Talk About It!

- 1. How would you feel if your grandmother went on a field trip with your class?
- 2. If you went to Washington, D.C., what places would you like to visit? Why did you choose them?
- 3. Would you want to walk up the 893 steps to the top of the Washington Monument, or take the elevator? Which do you think would be more fun?
- 4. Christina and Ali had a spider in their bathroom! Have you ever been frightened by a spider or some other insect?
- 5. Grant and Mike convinced Papa to buy them cola spy cameras. If you had a spy camera, what would you do with it? Who would you spy on?
- 6. If your house had a recreation room like the White House, what kind of games would you put in there? Would the room be a normal room with four walls or would it be a fun shape?
- 7. Who was your favorite character in the book? Which character is most like you?
- 8. What was your favorite part of the book? Why was that part your favorite?



# CONSTITUTION WORD MYSTERY COUNTERFEIT

# Word Search

C	Ν	0	Т	G	Ν	I	Н	S	Α	W	S	C	R	C
Т	Н	Р	G	Q	M	5	F	G	M	E	V	0	У	0
F	Ν	Е	G	Ν	G	0	X	R	V	E	Т	Ν	C	Ν
K	У	L	R	0	0	M	Ν	I	Ν	U	R	5	A	G
D	G	Α	W	R	5	I	Н	U	Ν	Н	C	Τ	R	R
5	V	F	C	5	У	C	Τ	D	M	0	R	I	C	E
Ν	X	I	Z	D	R	В	Α	Ν	U	E	Н	Т	0	S
0	J	Т	I	Α	X	Α	L	Ν	Е	В	Ν	U	M	S
Т	Е	G	R	0	G	В	Т	0	G	V	Т	Т	Ε	X
U	Н	D	U	G	٧	E	В	L	5	I	Ν	I	D	W
J	Q	Р	Α	Т	R	I	0	Т	5	5	5	0	Н	U
K	F	I	F	F	0	Т	В	C	L	C	0	Ν	C	C
Z	Т	Р	Ε	F	У	I	5	Т	D	Р	U	M	Α	В
Α	L	I	V	M	F	K	0	R	Т	U	J	M	X	Т
0	Т	Н	S	Z	I	Τ	F	Α	Т	Z	F	I	Α	W

#### **Word Bank**

archives	rotunda	constitution	counterfeit
washington	monument	convention	gorget
patriots	Congress	cherry blossom	democracy