

Social Studies Unit 2 Vocabulary PART 1

1. **Constitution-** a set of rules that guides how a country, state, or other political organization works. The **constitution** may tell what the branches of the government are, what powers they have, and how they work. It may also state the rights of citizens.
2. **Government-** Any group of people living together in a country, state, city, or local community has to live by certain rules. The system of rules and the people who make and administer them is known as a government.
3. **Rights-** The right to live as a free person, the right to have shelter and food, and the right not to be mistreated. Also, rights can be granted to citizens by a government.
4. **Founding Fathers-** A person who founds or establishes some institution; for example, "George Washington is the **father** of his country" and a member of the Constitutional Convention.
5. **Articles of Confederation-** The Articles of Confederation served as the first constitution of the United States. This document officially established the government of the union of the thirteen states.
6. **Great Compromise-** A two house plan that all states agreed with. The Senate would have an equal number of representatives from each state (satisfies the smaller populated states). The House of Representatives would include at least one representative for each state (satisfies the larger populated states).
7. **Ratify-** To confirm or accept.
8. **Three- Fifths Compromise-** a **compromise (agreement)** between southern and northern states during the Constitutional Convention in which each slave counted as **three-fifths** of a person.
9. **James Madison-** Recorder during the Constitutional Convention. He also became the 4th U.S. President.
10. **Benjamin Franklin-** Very wise delegate who helped write the Constitution.
11. **George Washington-** Leader of the Continental Army during the American Revolution. Also became president of the Constitutional CONvention and the 1st U.S. President.