

Declaration of Independence

- >written by *Thomas Jefferson*
- >Declared our independence from Great Britain
- >Two Rights - *Liberty & Pursuit of Happiness*
- >Adopted: *July 4, 1776*
- >Freedom of Religion = *practice any or not at all*
- >Rule of Law = *Everyone must follow the law*
- >Economic System = *Capitalist*

The Constitution

- was written in *1787*
- at the Constitutional Convention
- Supported by Federalist Papers Writer > *James Madison*
- Supreme Law of The Land: *The Constitution*
- Constitution sets up & defines the Government;
- First 3 Words of Constitution : "*We The People*"

- Amendment is a *Change to the Constitution*
- 27** Amendments in Total
- 1st 10 amendments are the "*Bill of Rights*"
- 1st Amendment right/freedom: *Speech*
- 4 Voting Amendments: *18 & Older to Vote*

Rights & Responsibilities

- >Responsibility Only For US Citizen: *Vote in Federal Election*
- >A Right Only for US Citizen: *Vote in a Federal Election*
- >Two Rights for Everyone Living in US - *Freedom of Speech & Worship*
- >One Promise You Make As US Citizen: *To Obey the Laws of United States*
- >Two Ways to Participate in Democracy: *Vote & Join A Political Party*

- Pledge Allegiance to: *The Flag & The US*
- Income Tax Due Date: *April 15th*
- Register for Selective Service: *at age 18*

Other Notable Items

- >*Susan B Anthony - fought for Women's Rights*
- >*Africans were taken to America & sold as slaves*
- >*Indian Tribe - Cherokee*
- >*Longest River - Mississippi River*
- >*US territory - Puerto Rico*

Branches of Government:

Separation of Powers keeps one from becoming too powerful

Executive Branch

- President: 4 year term*
- Voted in November*
- Commander in Chief*
- Signs Bills into Law*
- Vetoes Bills*
- Barack Obama*
- Vice President: Joe Biden*
- Cabinet Advises President*
- >*Secretary of State*
- >*Secretary of Defense*

Judicial Branch

- Reviews & Explains Laws*
- Highest: Supreme Court*
- 9 Justices*
- Chief Justice: John Roberts*

Legislative Branch : Congress

Speaker of the House: John Boehner

House of Representatives

- 435 members*
- Elected for 2 years*
- Population Based Representation*
- Scott Peters*

The Senate

- 100 members*
- Elected for 6 years*
- Represent ALL people of state*
- Barbara Boxer*

Two Parties: Democratic & Republican

Federal Government Power

- >*Declare War*

State Government Power

- >*School & Education*

State Extras

- >*Governor: Jerry Brown*
- >*Capital: Sacramento*

- >*Colonists came to America: Freedom*
- >*Native Americans here before Europeans arrived*
- >*Colonists fought Britain: High taxes (taxation w/out representation)*
- > *13 Original States Included: New York, New Jersey, New Hampshire*
- >*Father of Our Country & First President: George Washington*
- >*Ben Franklin: 1st Postmaster General of US*

1800's

- >*Louisiana purchased by US from France*
- >*Wars:*
- >>*Civil War was between North & South*
- >>>*Civil War caused by slavery*
- >>>*Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves*
- >>>>*Emancipation Proclamation*

1900's

- >**WW1** - President **Woodrow Wilson**
- >**Great Depression & WWToo**
- President Franklin Roosevelt*
- >**WW2** US fought 3 - (J,I & G) Japan, Italy & Germany
- >**Eisenhower** was a General in **WW2**
- >**Cold War Concern - Communism**
- >**Civil Rights Movement - Tried to end racial discrimination**
- >**Martin Luther King- Fought for Civil Rights**

Independence Day: July 4th

Holidays: Thanksgiving & Christmas

>*Ocean West & East - Pacific/Atlantic*

>*State Borders Canada - New York*

>*State Borders Mexico - California*

>*Capital - Washington DC*

>*Statue of Liberty - New York Harbor*

>*13 stripes on flag - represent 13 original colonies*

>*50 stars on flag - represent the 50 states*

>*National Anthem - Star Spangled Banner*

>*September 11, 2001 - Terrorists attacked US*