



# LESSON PLAN OUTLINE

## LESSON 2.5

# Amending the Constitution

## Overview

### Essential Question(s):

What is the process for changing the U.S. Constitution & VA Constitution? Why is it important to have an amendment process?

### Standards:

*From the 2023 Standards:*

CE.1 The student will apply history and social science skills to explain the foundations of the American constitutional democracy by

- f) describing the procedures for amending the Constitution of Virginia and the Constitution of the United States.

*From the 2015 Standards:*

CE.2 The student will apply social science skills to understand the foundations of American constitutional government by

- d) describing the procedures for amending the Constitution of Virginia and the Constitution of the United States.

*National Council for Social Studies Standards:*

### Vocabulary:

amendment, propose, ratify, convention

### Essential Knowledge: (from the curriculum framework)

*From the 2015 Standards:*

Constitution of the United States

- The amendment process is complex.
- To date, there are 27 amendments to the Constitution of the United States.
- Amendment process:
  - Proposal: action by Congress or convention of the states
  - Ratification: by the states

Constitution of Virginia

- Amendment process:
  - Proposal: action by General Assembly or constitutional convention
  - Ratification: by voters of Virginia

## Engage

### BELLRINGER: WHAT IF?

Students will write, outline, or illustrate how they believe the founding fathers would react to the technology of today. They can choose from one of the following scenarios:

- George Washington seeing a television.
- Thomas Jefferson flying on an airplane.
- James Madison using a smartphone.

### TWO TRUTHS & A LIE:

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT EDITION

Students will be given two sets of “unusual” amendments that were proposed to be added to the constitution. They will try to figure out which amendment is the lie and was never proposed.

# Explain



## SLIDES

The interactive slides in this lesson can be used in multiple ways:

- teachers can direct all students to generate their own copies of the Google Slides on a tablet or laptop, allowing the students to interact directly with the prompts individually.
  - teachers can use the deck as a presentation, guiding the entire classroom through the content as a large group.
  - by creating their own Google Slides copy, teachers may rearrange or edit the content to suit their own pacing or adaptation needs.
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# Explore

## CLASSROOM CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

Students will review a classroom constitution that is skewed in favor of the teacher. In small groups, students will discuss and vote on proposed amendments. Then each group will have a delegate from their group report back to the class on their choice, and the entire classroom will vote to ratify a proposed amendment.

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# Elaborate

## AMENDING THE RIGHT TO VOTE

Students will examine the 15th, 19th, and 26th Amendments to learn more about how Americans' views on who should have the right to vote changed over time.

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# Evaluate

## GAME REVIEW

Kahoot! Question Set ([link to come](#))  
Quizizz Question Set ([link to come](#))

## EXIT TICKET

5-question review students complete before exiting the classroom

