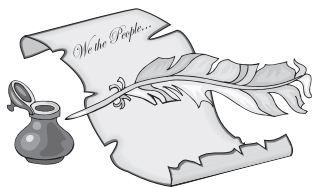




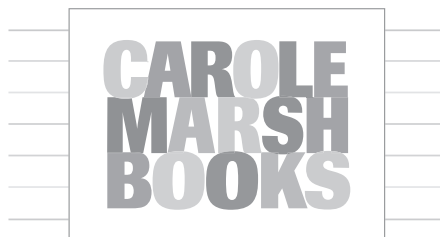
The  
**COUNTERFEIT  
 CONSTITUTION**  
 Mystery

# Teacher's Guide

by  
**Carole Marsh**



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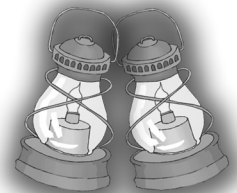
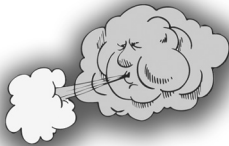
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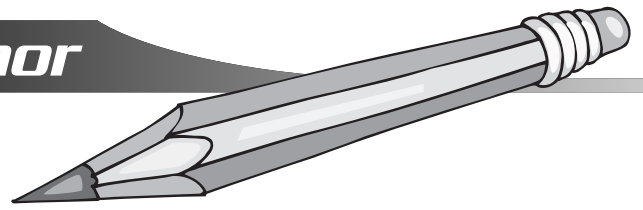
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- #1 THE MYSTERY OF BILTMORE HOUSE
  - #2 THE MYSTERY AT THE BOSTON MARATHON
  - #3 THE MYSTERY OF BLACKBEARD THE PIRATE
  - #4 THE MYSTERY OF THE ALAMO GHOST
  - #5 THE MYSTERY ON THE CALIFORNIA MISSION TRAIL
  - #6 THE MYSTERY OF THE CHICAGO DINOSAURS
  - #7 THE WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS MYSTERY
  - #8 THE MYSTERY ON ALASKA'S IDITAROD TRAIL
  - #9 THE MYSTERY AT KILL DEVIL HILLS
  - #10 THE MYSTERY IN NEW YORK CITY
  - #11 THE MYSTERY AT DISNEY WORLD
  - #12 THE MYSTERY ON THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD
  - #13 THE MYSTERY IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS
  - #14 THE MYSTERY ON THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI
  - #15 THE MYSTERY AT THE KENTUCKY DERBY
  - #16 THE GHOST OF THE GRAND CANYON
  - #17 THE MYSTERY AT JAMESTOWN
  - #18 THE MYSTERY IN CHOCOLATE TOWN, HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA
  - #19 THE "GOSH AWFUL!" GOLD RUSH MYSTERY
  - #20 THE COUNTERFEIT CONSTITUTION MYSTERY



## A Word from the Author



Dear Teachers,

In 1979, I began writing children's mysteries set at historic sites that still existed—primarily so that kids could go and see what they had read about. Frankly, I found no more fun, educational, and stress-free (actually, just plain joyful!) activity to do with my then school-age children than to visit a fascinating historic site!

I think one thing I always want to share with kids is that history is not boring and it is not dead! The U.S. Constitution is a great example of a living, changing piece of history that is as fresh and cutting-edge and controversial as it is historic and sacred to our democracy. To see the Constitution is to get cold chills! To imagine it gone is, well, unimaginable.

Sometimes, I think only fiction can tell the non-fiction story to kids. It just communicates more powerfully and, actually, more realistically. One of the proudest moments of my writing life was when famous and history-preserving places such as the National Archives began to carry my books.

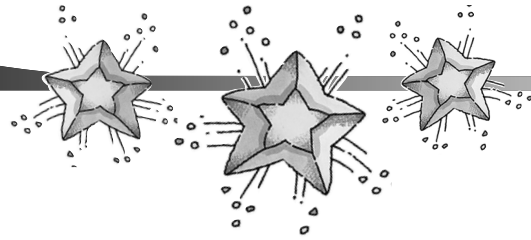
Patriotism is about a lot of things, and one of those is caring. When kids read this book, I believe they will suddenly care a lot about the physical Constitution and the ideals it stands for in our lives each and every day!

Enjoy your adventure in our nation's capital!

*Carole Marsh*



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## 30 YEARS AGO . . .

As a mother and an author, one of the fondest periods of my life was when I decided to write mystery books for children. At this time (1979) kids were pretty much glued to the TV, something parents and teachers complained about the way they do about video games today.

I decided to set each mystery in a real place—a place kids could go and visit for themselves after reading the book. And I also used real children as characters. Usually a couple of my own children served as characters, and I had no trouble recruiting kids from the book's location to also be characters.

Also, I wanted all the kids—boys and girls of all ages—to participate in solving the mystery. And, I wanted kids to learn something as they read. Something about the history of the location. And I wanted the stories to be funny.

That formula of real+scary+smart+fun served me well. The kids and I had a great time visiting each site and many of the events in the stories actually came out of our experiences there. (For example, getting chills when I actually saw the U.S. Constitution!)

I love getting letters from teachers and parents who say they read the book with their class or child, then visited the historic site and saw all the places in the mystery for themselves. What's so great about that? What's great is that you and your children have an experience that bonds you together forever. Something you shared. Something you both cared about at the time. Something that crossed all age levels—a good story, a good scare, a good laugh!

30 years later,

*Carole Marsh*

## Make a Time Line!

Time lines help students understand the order of past events and the amount of time that elapsed between those events. Time lines are awesome teaching tools!


Start a time line project around the walls of your classroom. As major news events occur throughout the year, post them on the time line. These might include a presidential or congressional election, a weather event like a hurricane or flood, a local sports team's success, or the death of an important person. It should be quite interesting to review at the end of the year—a year in the life of your class!

Encourage students to make time lines throughout the history lessons. Time lines can serve as their calendar of events. Parallel time lines can help students see many events happening at the same time, and help them grasp the "big picture!"



**Chapter Subject**

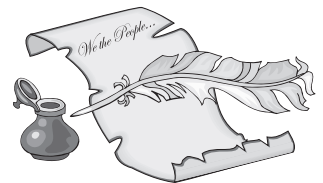
**EXPLORE!**

- 1 Vocabulary “Commotion” means a scene of noisy confusion or activity.
- 1 Geography Washington, D.C. (District of Columbia) is the capital of the United States of America. The city was named after George Washington, the first president of the United States.
- 1 History The U.S. Constitution is the supreme law of the United States of America.
1.  Vocabulary A “chaperone” is someone who accompanies and supervises younger people.
- 1 Vocabulary “Excursion” means to take a short trip to a place and back, for pleasure or for a purpose.
- 1 Vocabulary “Megaphone” is a device shaped like a funnel used to increase the volume of a voice.
- 1 Vocabulary “Exuberance” means full of happy spirits and energy.
- 1 Vocabulary A “mystery writer” is someone who writes stories about a strange or puzzling event, especially a crime.
- 1 Vocabulary “Wagged” means to move a part of the body to and fro.



## Our Constitution

- The Constitution of the United States of America establishes and protects the fundamental rights and liberties of all citizens. The First Amendment covers many different rights:
- Religion: Government may not establish an official religion, nor endorse, or unduly interfere with the free exercise of religion.
- Speech: Individuals are free to express their opinions and beliefs.
- Press: The press has the right to gather and publish information, including that which criticizes the government.
- Assembly: Individuals may peacefully gather.
- Petition: Individuals have the right to make their views known to public officials.



- 1 Word Usage The term “sheepish grin” means showing embarrassment as a result of having done something awkward or wrong.
- 1 History On April 30, 1789, standing on the balcony of Federal Hall on Wall Street in New York, George Washington took his oath of office as the first president of the United States.
- 1 Writing An onomatopoeia is a “sound word” that imitates the sound that it represents. Examples of onomatopoeia are hiss, buzz, beep, splat, and plop.
- 2 Vocabulary “Lumbered” means to move clumsily or heavily.
- 2 History “Founding Fathers” is a term used for the forefathers and framers of the Constitution. They are the political leaders who signed the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, or participated in the American Revolution as leaders of the Patriots.
- 2 History The Constitutional Convention took place from May 25 to September 17, 1787, to address problems in the United States of America following its independence from Great Britain. The delegates elected George Washington to preside over the convention. The result of the convention was the United States Constitution. The Constitutional Convention is one of the central events in the history of the United States.
- 2 History The Patriots were the colonists in the 13 British colonies who rebelled against British control during the American Revolution.



## Idioms

An idiom is a fun figure of speech. It is a word or phrase with a meaning that is not related to the individual words. This means that sometimes the meanings of idioms can be tricky to figure out, especially for people who are just learning the language! There are several idioms in *The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery* including “hit the sack,” and “break the ice.”

See if you can match these idioms with the correct meaning.

1. He's a real penny-pincher.
  2. She's the apple of my eye.
  3. I'm having a bad hair day.
  4. Break a leg!
  5. That baby is as cute as a bug's ear!
  6. She got up on the wrong side of bed today!
  7. Hold your horses!
  8. You've been running around like a chicken with its head cut off.
  9. It's time to put on your thinking cap.
  10. It's been raining cats and dogs all day!
- A. think carefully about something  
 B. something or someone that is very special  
 C. wake up in a grumpy mood  
 D. raining hard  
 E. someone who is thrifty  
 F. wait  
 G. running around in a crazy way  
 H. messy hair  
 I. Good luck!  
 J. small and adorable

Answers: 1. E; 2. B; 3. H; 4. I; 5. J; 6. C; 7. F; 8. G; 9. A; 10. D



- 2 Vocabulary “Gesture” is a movement made with a part of the body in order to express meaning or emotion or to communicate an instruction.
- 2 Word Usage “One giant leap for mankind” is a famous phrase spoken by astronaut Neil Armstrong when he became the first man to set foot on the moon.
- 2 Word Usage “Gorget” is a military, crescent-shaped piece of armor worn around the neck.
- 2 History An “act of treason” is a crime of disloyalty. The British felt that signing the Constitution was an act of treason.
- 2 History King George III was born in London on June 4, 1738. He was the first of the House of Hanover to be born and educated as an Englishman. George III was the longest reigning of the male British monarchs. He was king of Great Britain and Ireland and presided over the loss of the American colonies.
- 2 History The Second Continental Congress was a body of 65 representatives appointed by the legislatures of the 13 British colonies that met from May 10, 1775, to March 1, 1781. It succeeded the First Continental Congress, which met briefly during 1774.
- 2 History George Washington (1732–1799) had several sets of dentures (false teeth), but none of them were made of wood. New York City dentist John Greenwood made Washington's first set of false teeth out of hippopotamus ivory to which he attached several human teeth.



## Make a Silhouette

Silhouettes were a popular form of art in Colonial times—especially since there were no cameras! Silhouettes are fun and inexpensive to make. They make great gifts, too!

### Directions

Tape a large piece of white paper on the wall. Position a bright light (like a flashlight or a gooseneck lamp) so the light shines directly on the paper.

Have someone sit between the paper on the wall and the lamp so they are directly in the light and the shadow of their head is on the paper.

Have the person turn sideways so that his or her profile can be seen. Try moving the lamp closer or further away until the shadow is the right size.

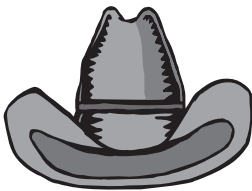
While the person sits very still, use a pencil to outline the shadow on the white paper.

Carefully cut out the outline and then use it to trace another outline, this time on black paper.

Cut out the black outline and mount it on white paper.



- 2 Vocabulary “Awestruck” means a feeling of amazement and respect mixed with fear; often coupled with a feeling of personal powerlessness.
- 3 Vocabulary “Imploringly” means in an earnestly begging way.
- 3 Science “Flushing” occurs when the body experiences anxiety, stress and heat. The blood vessels in the face constrict, causing the skin to turn red.
- 3 Body Language “Grant motioned with his chin.” Grant wanted Mike to look at something without pointing directly at it.
- 4 Vocabulary A “Stetson hat” is a popular kind of cowboy hat invented by John B. Stetson. The hat has a tall crown that provides a pocket of air to keep the head warm. Its wide brim provides protection from rain and snow.
- 4 Vocabulary “Remnants” are small parts of something that remain after the rest is gone.
- 5 Body Language “A withering glance” is a scornful look with the intention of embarrassing a foolish act.
- 5 Word Usage “He thought he’d toss one more dig at his sister.” A “dig” is a remark intended to hurt or make fun of somebody.
- 6 Writing “Christina was enjoying herself. It was cool to have a girl her own age around.” Write about a time you had fun with a good friend.
- 6 Vocabulary “Eerie” refers to something unnerving or unusual in a way that suggests a connection with the supernatural.




## How do we learn about the past?

Historians are people who study and keep track of the past. They write about history for books, magazines, computer software, television, and other places. Where do they get their information? Sometimes they read other books. But sometimes there are no books on the subject. How do they know what happened? Historians use many tools to understand the past:

- Artifacts
- Textbooks
- Architecture
- Documents
- Photos
- Oral Presentations
- Letters
- Paintings
- Diaries
- Graphs
- Maps
- Charts



- 6 Vocabulary “Communicating device” is a device that gives or exchanges information.
- 6 Science “Magnified glass” refers to a lens that causes things to appear larger.
- 7 Vocabulary “Darted” means to move, extend or direct something suddenly and quickly.
- 8 Body Language “George Washington bowed to Mimi.” This was a way of showing respect and giving Mimi the honor of going first.
- 8 Reasoning Many titles of honor were suggested to call George Washington. Why do you think “president” was chosen?
- 9 Word Usage  

 “The kids stood like tigers ready to pounce,” means they were all ready and eager to go in to the National Archives building.
- 9 Architecture “Rotunda” is a round building, usually covered with a dome.
- 9 Vocabulary “Parchment” is a high-quality paper used for important documents.
- 10 Writing “Frantic” refers to being excited, hurried and confused. Write about a time you’ve felt frantic.
- 10 Vocabulary “Counterfeit” is a term used when something is fake (usually documents).
- 10 Reasoning Why was Grant’s heart pounding? And why did he think the Constitution was counterfeit?
- 10 Vocabulary “Surveillance” means a close watch.



## Think About It!

What does the expression, “If we don’t learn from history, we are doomed to repeat it” mean? Ask students if they can think of examples in which history has repeated itself.

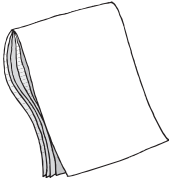

### Talk About It!

Discuss conflict—causes and resolution. Check out a controversial historical or current issue. Discuss the contrasting viewpoints. Ask students to tell the class about a conflict they were involved in and how it was resolved.

### Draw It!

Have students make a time line of American Revolution events, including the Stamp Act, Boston Massacre, Boston Tea Party, First Continental Congress, Second Continental Congress, Declaration of Independence, Battle of Lexington, Battle of Concord, and Battle of Yorktown.



- 11 Body Language By giving Grant a “stern look,” Papa was indicating that he was displeased with Grant.
- 11 Vocabulary “Bellowed” means to shout in a deep, loud voice.
- 11 Vocabulary “Heaped” means to pile up something.
- 11 Word Usage The word “peep” has more than one meaning. One meaning is to take a quick or secret look. It also means to make a quiet, high-pitched noise.
- 12 Writing  Christina wanted to hear all the details of Grant’s experience. Sometimes it is easier to remember details if you write them down. Write down all the details of Grant’s experience in the Preservation Room.
- 12 Science A “sensor” is a device capable of detecting and responding to physical stimuli such as movement, light, or heat.
- 13 Vocabulary “Trinket” is a term used for a small item such as a piece of jewelry or an ornament with little or no value.
- 13 Vocabulary “Replica” is an accurate copy of a document, or object.
- 13 Reasoning How did Grant end up with the man’s document?
- 14 History  Thomas Edison was an American inventor who developed such devices as the phonograph and a long-lasting light bulb.
- 14 Math If John F. Kennedy missed 65 of the term’s 88 days in kindergarten, how many days did he attend?

## Words to the Wise

Benjamin Franklin was an important figure in the establishment of the United States of America. He helped draft the Declaration of Independence, and was one of the most influential members of the Second Continental Congress.

Ben Franklin is also well known for the wise and humorous sayings he published in “Poor Richard’s Almanac” from 1733 to 1758. Here are just a few—still as sensible today as they were in the 18th century!

“I am a strong believer in luck and I find the harder I work the more I have of it.”

“Never leave that till tomorrow which you can do today.”

“Beware of the young doctor and the old barber.”

“Do not anticipate trouble, or worry about what may never happen. Keep in the sunlight.”

“God helps them that help themselves.”

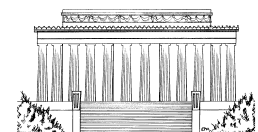
“Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.”



## Monumental Places!

Monuments honor people and events in our nation's history. Washington, D.C., our nation's capital, is home to dozens of monuments. Whether they're famous—like the Lincoln Memorial—or less well-known, they all tell an important story. Some of these monuments are listed below. See if you can figure out who or what they honor:

- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
- Marine Corps War Memorial
- Jefferson Memorial
- Korean War Veterans Memorial
- Lincoln Memorial
- National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial
- National World War II Memorial
- U.S. Navy Memorial
- Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- Washington Monument
- Women in Military Service for America Memorial



- 14 Word Usage “Prickles of fear” describes a sensation or tingling feeling that comes over you when you are afraid.
- 15 Language A double-decker bus is a bus with an upper and lower deck. People can sit on the top and bottom levels.
- 15 History The International Spy Museum showcases more than 200 gadgets, weapons, bugs, cameras, vehicles, and technologies used for espionage throughout the world.
- 15 Reasoning Why did Mimi say Grant just “scared the red stripes off her scarf?”
- 16 History The Civil War is also known as the War Between the States. It was fought from 1861 to 1865 between the North and the slave-owning states in the South.
- 16 Math How long did it take to complete the Washington Monument if it was started in 1848 and finished in 1884?
- 16 Vocabulary “Logical” means sensible or rational.
- 16 Math If Grant and Mike were on step 892 of the Washington Monument and Papa and Mimi were 53 steps behind, what step were they on?
- 17 History Although our nation's first president, George Washington, oversaw construction of the White House, he never lived in it. In 1800 President John Adams and his wife, Abigail, became the first residents of the White House.



- 18 Vocabulary “Insistent” means adamant and unrelenting.
- 18 Reasoning What kind of “storm” was Grant expecting from Christina when she found out he put surveillance bugs in her hotel room?
- 18 Reasoning “Hysterical” means suffering from an uncontrollable emotion. What uncontrollable emotion do you think the children were experiencing? Have you ever been hysterical? Why?
- 19 Inventions Cellophane, the clear wrap that often covers food, was invented in 1908 by Swiss chemist Jacques Brandenberger. He perfected his invention for 10 years before it became available to the public. Today, cellophane is used in tape, gift wrap, and many other items.
- 19 Reasoning What does Christina mean when she says, “I’m going to sleep on this one?”
- 20 History In 1912, Mayor Yukio Ozaki of Tokyo, Japan gave 3,000 cherry trees to the city of Washington, D.C. as a token of friendship between the two cities. The National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade is held each year to celebrate that event.
- 20 Reasoning How did the note end up in Grant’s pocket?
- 20 Vocabulary “Down” is the soft under-feathers of geese and ducks. It is very warm and is often used to fill winter jackets and blankets.
- 20 Reasoning Why would the musicians’ instruments stick to their lips?



## Who Can Become President?

The U.S. Constitution lists three qualifications to be president. The candidate must be a natural born citizen of the United States, must be at least 35 years old, and must have lived in the United States for at least 14 years.

### Who Can Vote?

Voting requirements differ slightly from state to state, but generally include:

- Must be a citizen of the United States
- Must be a resident of the state you are voting in
- Must be 18 years old on or before election day
- Must not be convicted of a felony or currently incarcerated
- Must not be found incompetent by a court for purposes of voting

### Think About It

Are you eligible to become president of the United States? Why or why not? Will you ever be eligible to become president? Why or why not? Name three things you think you would like about being president. What are three things you wouldn't like? Why?

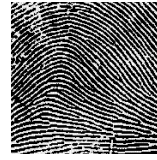


- 20 Math If Mimi was born in 1953, how old is she now? Is she old enough to join the National Red Hat Society?
- 21 Vocabulary “Engulf” means to completely surround or swallow up.
- 21 Reasoning What does “The man hit the ground like a rock” mean?
- 22 History The FBI stands for Federal Bureau of Investigation. Members of the FBI are called “agents.” Their job is to protect the United States from being harmed by other countries and to uphold the laws of the United States.
- 22 Vocabulary “Sinister” means threatening or evil.
- 22 Reasoning To “smuggle” is to bring something in or out illegally. Why do you think people smuggle things?



## Fingerprints

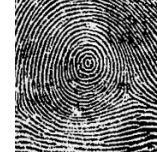
Plain Arch



Loop



Whirl



You can examine fingerprints just like the FBI.

You will need:

- pencil and paper
- transparent tape
- magnifying glass

Scribble on a piece of paper until you have a heavy black mark.

Rub your index finger in the mark.

Put a piece of tape over your finger, press down, then pull it off.

Put the tape on a clean piece of paper so you can see your fingerprint.

Examine your fingerprints for loops, whirls, and arches.

Fingerprint your friends and compare their prints with yours!



# Discussion Questions

- ❖ Why did King George III want to collect taxes from the colonists? Do you think this was fair? Why or why not? If you were a colonist, would you have paid your taxes? Name three things that taxes are used to pay for today. What would happen if people didn't pay taxes?
- ❖ What is the Bill of Rights? Who does it protect? Why is it necessary to have laws that protect people? What happens if people break these laws? Name two laws that you think are very important to obey.
- ❖ What document fascinated Mimi since she was a little girl? Why do you think she found it so interesting? What is something from the past that you find interesting? Why do you find it interesting?
- ❖ Grant hid in the Preservation Room. What do you think happens in the Preservation Room? Why is this important?
- ❖ Why was Christina angry with Grant for putting a surveillance bug in her room? Do you think it's OK to spy on people? Why or why not? How would you feel if someone spied on you? When is a time we might need spies? Do you think it would be exciting to be a spy? Why or why not?
- ❖ The National Red Hat Society wants to reshape the way older people are viewed by society. What view do you think society has of older people? Is that fair? Why or why not? How do you view older people? How do you think older people view younger people? Is that fair? Why or why not? In what ways are older people valuable to our society?
- ❖ Should the children have told the adults earlier about the danger they were in? Why or why not? Tell about a time when you were in danger or had a problem. Did you tell an adult? Why or why not?

## Don't Forget to Delegate!

No one can do it all. That's why the president of the United States appoints people to Cabinet posts to help him run the government. He delegates much of his work to these people, who are also part of the executive branch of government. Cabinet secretaries include:

- Secretary of State
- Secretary of Treasury
- Secretary of Defense
- Attorney General
- Secretary of Interior
- Secretary of Agriculture
- Secretary of Health and Human Services
- Secretary of Labor
- Secretary of Commerce
- Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
- Secretary of Transportation
- Secretary of Energy
- Secretary of Education
- Secretary of Veterans Affairs
- Secretary of Homeland Security





# Geography: Find It!

1. What states border Washington, D.C., our nation's capital?
2. What large body of water is to the east of Washington, D.C.?
3. Name the river that runs through our nation's capital.
4. True or False? The Pacific Ocean lies to the east of Maryland and Virginia.
5. Eight U.S. presidents have been born in the state that borders Washington, D.C. to the east and the south. What state is that?
6. BONUS! If you sent a letter to the following address, to whom should you address it?  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C., 20500



## Washington, D.C. Fun Facts

Washington, D.C. entered the Union on February 21, 1871

Motto: *Justitia omnibus* (Justice to all)

Flag:



Flower: American Beauty rose



Bird: wood thrush



Tree: scarlet oak



Song: Star-Spangled Banner

Named after Christopher Columbus, the District of Columbia is divided into four quadrants: Northwest, Southwest, Northeast, and Southeast. The U.S. Capitol building marks the spot where all four meet.



# Mathematics: Calculate It!

1. If 30 children went on the trip to Washington, D.C., and Mimi was in charge of one-third of them, how many children was she responsible for?
2. Being a tourist is expensive. How much would you pay for this meal at the National Archives cafeteria?  
2 slices of pepperoni pizza (\$3 each)  
1 medium soda (\$1.50)  
3 chocolate chip cookies (\$1 each)
3. The children toured Washington, D.C., on a double-decker bus. If the top of the bus holds half as many people as the bottom, and the bottom holds 50 people, how many does the top hold?
4. The driving distance from Peachtree City, Georgia, to Washington, D.C., is about 600 miles. As the crow (or *Mystery Girl*) flies, it is about 550 miles. How many more miles is the driving distance than the flying distance? Why is driving distance usually more than flying distance?
5. If Mimi wrote two books a year for five years, how many books would she have written in all?
6. Things cost more over time. A set of dentures (false teeth) for a colonist might have cost \$3. A set of dentures today might cost \$300. How much more do dentures cost today than in Colonial times? Why do you think things get more expensive?
7. Probability is the likelihood that an event will occur. The probability of an event can be described using these words: likely, unlikely, certain, impossible. Use one of these words to describe the probability of each of the following events.
  - a. The probability that you will do your homework.
  - b. The probability that you are alive.
  - c. The probability that a dinosaur will stomp into your town today.
  - d. The probability that you will meet an FBI agent today.



## Strength in Numbers

Members of Congress are typically middle or upper class, well-educated, and come from families with plenty of money. This is not true of the majority of Americans represented by congressional representatives. Congress has never been more than 3% black, while blacks make up about 13% of the American population. Women make up over 50% of the population, but this is not the case in Congress.

How can we expect this group of mostly white, middle-aged men to represent our concerns and protect our interests in Congress? This is where you come into the picture. By paying attention to what is happening on Capitol Hill and by holding our representatives accountable, we can make a difference! Citizens can make an impact on voting day. They can also work to get more women and minorities elected to government office. They can write, phone, or e-mail their representatives. They can make their feelings known—it's what our Founding Fathers would have wanted!



1. Pretend that you were invited to be a character in this book. Make a packing list of the things you'll need on this thrilling adventure. Remember that you'll be doing a lot of snooping and spying! Be sure to check the weather, too!
2. The Constitutional Convention was an important event in our nation's history. Pretend that you are a reporter for the Pennsylvania Gazette. Write a newspaper article about the Constitutional Convention. Make sure the article answers the questions: Who? What? When? Where? Why?
3. Make a poster encouraging colonists to stand up to the British and protest unfair taxes. Be sure your poster is exciting and captures people's attention!
4. To counterfeit something is to make an illegal copy. People often try to counterfeit money. Try to draw a dollar bill.



5. Imagine that you are a participant in the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade. Write a letter to your best friend describing the experience. Be sure to give lots of details such as the weather, other participants, what group you are representing, interesting things you see and anything else you can think of.
6. Pretend that you are George Washington. Describe your feelings as you are sworn in as our nation's first president. Are you excited? Nervous? What plans do you have for our new country?
7. It's important to preserve our nation's history. Describe what you think you would need to do to preserve an important document such as the Declaration of Independence. What things might damage it? What might help protect it?

## It's Your Right!

The Declaration of Independence was adopted by Congress on July 4, 1776 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to declare our independence from the British. Some of our famous forefathers who signed the document included John Hancock, Samuel Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Benjamin Harrison.

One of the most well-known sections of the Declaration of Independence says:

*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.*

- What rights did our forefathers think people should have?
- Who did they think should have these rights?
- Who or what did they think should make sure people have these rights?



# Vocabulary: Spell It!

*Study the words below. All of them are taken from the mystery book. Fold the page in half and take a spelling test! Check your work, and study the words you miss! Look up each word in the dictionary and write its definition on a separate piece of paper.*

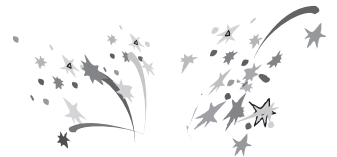
NORMAL	_____
CONSTITUTION	_____
DESPERATE	_____
SNICKER	_____
FAMILIAR	_____
CONVENTION	_____
GENUINE	_____
DEBT	_____
IVORY	_____
ITINERARY	_____
HUSKY	_____
RESEARCH	_____
ENHANCE	_____
CREEPY	_____
STATIC	_____
EMERGENCY	_____
PROFESSIONAL	_____
UNION	_____
INDEPENDENT	_____
ANTICS	_____
CORRIDOR	_____
SURVEILLANCE	_____
WHINE	_____
SAVOR	_____
GUILTY	_____

## Sing It!

You've probably heard our national anthem, the Star-Spangled Banner, many times, but do you really know all the words? And did you know that we usually only sing the first verse? There are actually two more!

The Star-Spangled Banner was written by Francis Scott Key on September 20, 1814. It officially became the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.

There are rules about how you should behave when the Star-Spangled Banner is played at public events. You should stand at attention facing the American flag (if one is present), and put your right hand over your heart. You can sing along if you want to, but no talking!



# Art: Create It!

*Monuments honor people and events. Design your own monument to honor someone or something special in your life. Here are some ideas to get you started:*

1. Sketch a black-and-white design of your monument. At the bottom of the page, list what materials you will use to build the monument.
2. Use a milk carton, butter tub, paper towel holder, shoebox, or other everyday materials to create your monument. Cover your “structure” with paper or paint it with markers. Glue, tape, or staple materials together if you need to!
3. Sculpt the face of the person you are honoring out of clay.
4. Crumple and shape aluminum foil to create your monument.



## Congressional Briefing

### **Facts About the House of Representatives**

- 435 members (determined by population)
- members must be at least 25 years old and a U.S. citizen for at least 7 years
- elected to a 2-year term
- meets in the south wing of U.S. Capitol
- presided over by Speaker of the House

### **Facts About the Senate**

- two senators from each state (100 members)
- members must be at least 30 years old and U.S. citizens for at least 9 years
- elected to a 6-year term
- meets in north wing of U.S. Capitol
- Vice President of the United States is president of the Senate



Grant enjoyed a delicious slice of pizza at the National Archives cafeteria. Try making your own yummy pizza with this easy recipe.

## Presidential Pizza

Serves 4

### Ingredients

- 1 ready-made pizza crust
- 1/4 cup of pizza sauce
- 1 cup of shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1/2 cup of shredded parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup of cooked Italian sausage
- 1 tablespoon of finely chopped onion
- 3 ounces of sliced pepperoni



### Directions

1. Preheat your oven to 425°.
2. Set pizza crust on a round baking sheet. Layer ingredients in the order listed: pizza sauce, mozzarella cheese, Italian sausage, onion, pepperoni, parmesan cheese.
3. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes until the crust is golden brown and the cheese is melted and bubbly.



**NOTE: The preparation of all dishes should be carried out with the supervision of an adult.**



## Early American Foods

The colonists enjoyed many tasty foods. Below are a few dishes our forefathers may have enjoyed.

### Side Items & Bread

- cauliflower pickles
- pickled oysters
- corn pone: a loaf or oval-shaped cake with corn in it

### Soup & Salad

- clam chowder: a thick, creamy soup made with clams and vegetables
- stewed cabbage with ham hock (a pig's ankle!)

### Dinners

- chicken smothered in oysters
- sweet potato pie
- succotash: a dish made with corn and beans

### Desserts

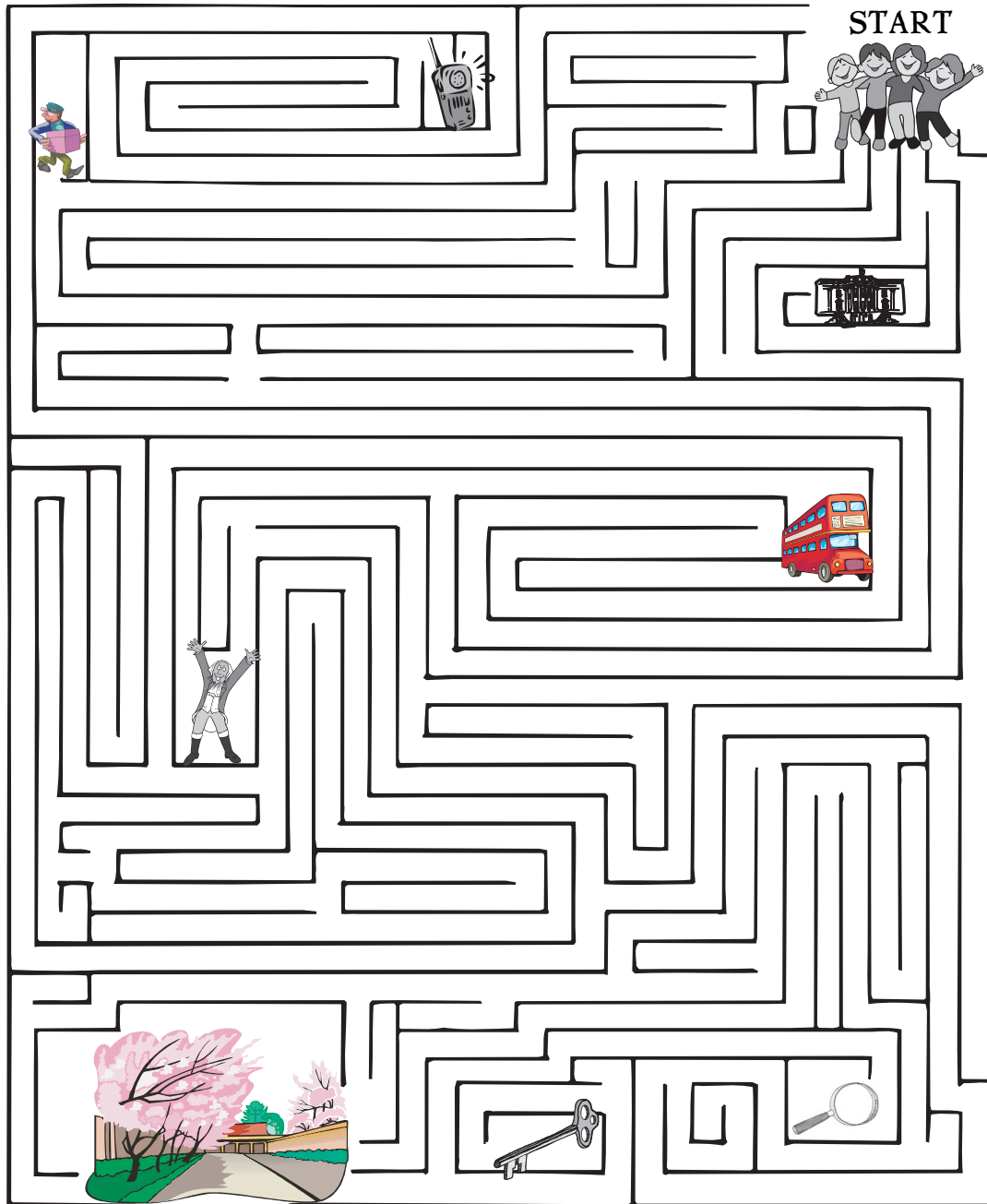
- raspberry fool: an English treat made with crushed, cooked fruit mixed with cream or custard and served cold
- wet bottom shoofly pie: a crustless pie filled with a mixture of flour, butter, brown sugar, and molasses
- burnt sugar cake: don't worry, it's only a little burnt!



## The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Maze



Help Christina, Grant, Ali, and Mike find their way out of the National Archives.  
Watch out for smugglers and counterfeiters!



FINISH



# ***The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Pair Up***



*Match the words on the left with the correct words on the right!*



George

camera

Constitutional

bug

surveillance

blossom

National

House

cherry

Convention

Top

Lady

cola

Secret

dark

Archives

White

Washington

First

glasses





# ***The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Spy Games***



*If you're going to be a professional snooper like Grant, you need to practice figuring out clues. Try this fun activity to sharpen your spying skills!*



1. Write names of favorite movie, book, or cartoon characters on 3x5 cards.
2. Tape a card to the back of each player. Don't tell them the name on the card.
3. Players must figure out who their character is by asking other players questions. Players may only ask "yes" or "no" questions, and they may only ask each player two questions. The first player to guess his or her character wins!



# The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Spy Scramble



*Unscramble the words below to find the things a spy might need.*

1. UGB \_\_\_\_\_

2. MAREAC \_\_\_\_\_

3. USESSLAGSN \_\_\_\_\_

4. PNE \_\_\_\_\_

5. RCHENT OTAC \_\_\_\_\_

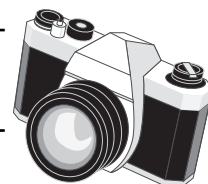
6. ORMPUTCE \_\_\_\_\_

7. PBLLETROUOF  
VTES \_\_\_\_\_

8. RAYVERB \_\_\_\_\_

9. ELCL EHOPN \_\_\_\_\_

10. RCRORDEE \_\_\_\_\_



# The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Word Search



Search for the mysteriously hidden words below!

K H K O W B T E M A A G U B B D O  
 E V R E S E R P N O R G E B S A R  
 O M O D X Y U W A O N C E O P N E  
 E D A R A P P Y C U R U H N Y G H  
 T I E F R E T N U O C E M I T E R  
 M P P R E S I D E N T M P E V R E  
 D O C U M E N T G X H O I A N E P  
 S U R V E I L L A N C E M Z H T U  
 G U I L T Y T N E M H C R A P C S

SURVEILLANCE

SPY

COUNTERFEIT

CHAPERONE

BUG

MONUMENT

ARCHIVE

PRESERVE

PARCHMENT

SUPERHERO

DANGER

AGENT

PRESIDENT

DOCUMENT

PARADE

GUILTY



# The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Fill-in-the-Blank



Fill in the blanks to answer the questions.

1. Mimi went along on the trip to Washington, D.C., to serve as a:

\_\_\_ \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ \_\_\_ R \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

2. The historical document Mimi was fascinated with:

\_\_\_ O \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ I \_\_\_ N

3. Ali is Christine's:

\_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ P \_\_\_ \_\_\_

4. Grant was trapped in here:

P \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ V \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ M

5. This creepy critter frightened the girls:

\_\_\_ P \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

6. This superhero engulfed Grant:

\_\_\_ U \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

7. As a token of appreciation for their bravery, the children received these from the FBI:

\_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ G \_\_\_ \_\_\_



# ***The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Matching Characters***



*Match these mystery characters with their descriptions!*

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. Mimi         | A. pilots the <i>Mystery Girl</i>             |
| 2. Grant        | B. Christina's penpal                         |
| 3. Christina    | C. works for the FBI                          |
| 4. Papa         | D. a "professional" snooper                   |
| 5. Ali          | E. a greedy smuggler                          |
| 6. Mike         | F. good at solving mysteries                  |
| 7. Joe          | G. has a lot to learn about spying from Grant |
| 8. Agent Hansen | H. exhausted by her chaperoning duties        |



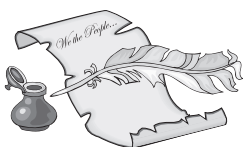
# The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Quiz



Use the clues to recall some interesting information about the Counterfeit Constitution Mystery!



1. Our founding fathers wrote and signed what important historical document?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. With the help of Mimi, this character from our nation's past gave a history lesson to the children while they were on the bus:  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The building where the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence are kept:  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. During the tour of Washington, D.C., the children rode in this special vehicle:  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Grant and Mike were excited to learn all about the art of espionage here:  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Mimi wished she'd taken the elevator to the top of this:  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Mimi visited this place to research her newest book:  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. This annual event celebrates trees planted in honor of the friendship between the United States and Japan:  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. When it's not on display, the U.S. Constitution is stored in this:  
\_\_\_\_\_



# ***The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery True or False***



*Mark each statement true or false.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Mimi found her chaperoning duties very relaxing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Christina and Ali had met many times before their trip to Washington, D.C.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. George Washington had wooden teeth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Ali tried several times to tell the other children that her father was an FBI agent.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Christina didn't mind that Grant was spying on Ali.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Joe worked as a security guard.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The weather was pleasant and warm during the trip to Washington, D.C.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The children noticed that many people in Washington, D.C. were wearing beige trench coats.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Papa and Grant rode the bus to Washington, D.C. with Mimi and Christina.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Joe was trying to steal the U.S. Constitution.



## ***Answer Key...***

# ***to The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Activities***



### ***Geography Questions***

1. Virginia, Maryland 2. Chesapeake Bay 3. Potomac River 4. False, the Atlantic Ocean lies to the east 5. Virginia 6. President of the United States

### ***Math Activities***

1. 10 2. \$10.50 3. 25 4. 50 miles; The shortest distance between two points is a straight line. A plane can fly in a straight line to its destination. Cars must follow the road, which dips and curves. 5. 10 books 6. \$297; Things get more expensive because the cost of making or producing them increases. 7. Answers may vary.

### ***The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Pair Up***

George Washington; Constitutional Convention; Surveillance bug; National Archives; Cherry Blossom; Top Secret; Cola Camera; Dark glasses; White House; First Lady

### ***The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Spy Scramble***

1. bug 2. camera 3. sunglasses 4. pen 5. trench coat 6. computer 7. bulletproof vest 8. bravery 9. cell phone 10. recorder

### ***The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Fill-in-the-Blank***

1. chaperone 2. constitution 3. penpal 4. Preservation Room 5. spider 6. Superman 7. badges

### ***The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery Matching Characters***

1. H 2. D 3. F 4. A 5. B 6. G 7. E 8. C

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

1. Declaration of Independence & the U.S. Constitution 2. George Washington 3. National Archives 4. double decker bus 5. National Spy Museum 6. Washington Monument 7. Library of Congress 8. National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade 9. a vault

### ***The Counterfeit Constitution Mystery True or False***

1. F 2. F 3. F 4. T 5. F 6. T 7. F 8. T 9. F 10. F

