

teach@home

Social Studies Activities

Grades 3–5, Week 9

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Day 1



Read the text about the Statue of Liberty.
Then, answer the questions below.



The Statue of Liberty sits in New York Harbor. This famous statue was given to the United States by France. Most of the statue is green because it is made of copper. The torch is golden because it is covered in a thin layer of gold. Lady Liberty stands 305 feet tall and wears a size 879 shoe! Inside the statue, there are 354 steps to the crown and 25 windows. The crown has 7 spikes that stand for the oceans and continents. Millions of people visit the statue every year. Representing freedom, the Statue of Liberty is an important symbol to many people.

1. Why do you think people visit the Statue of Liberty?

2. Explain what a symbol is.

3. List 2 other symbols that are important to the United States.

4. What does the crown represent?

5. What causes the statue to be colored green and gold?



Day 2

Read the text below. Then, fill in the chart on the next page.

People fight for freedom in many ways. Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony helped earn freedom for Americans who did not have it.

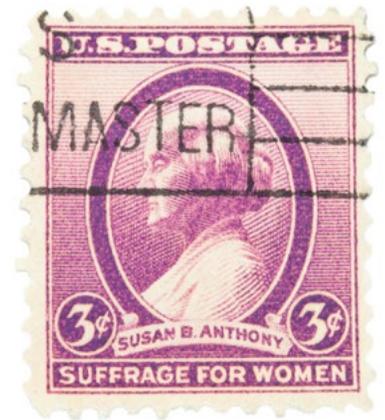
Harriet Tubman was an African American born into slavery in Maryland in about 1820. As a child, she was not allowed to go to school, and she received many beatings that harmed her for the rest of her life.

Harriet escaped to Pennsylvania in 1849 without her family. Then she risked her life to rescue hundreds of others. She made 19 trips back into the South. In the early 1860s, she worked as a spy, a nurse, and a scout for the North.

Harriet believed in equal rights for everyone. In 1868, the law was passed that gave African Americans the rights of citizens. However, the right to vote in that law was only for men. Harriet Tubman never got the right to vote. She died in 1913. Women gained the right to vote in 1920.

Susan B. Anthony was born in 1820 in Massachusetts into a family that believed in equal rights for everyone. Her family moved to New York in 1845. They became active in the antislavery movement there. Susan became a teacher and, in 1846, became head of a school for girls.

In 1852, Susan began working to gain rights for women. In 1863, she supported a law to ban slavery. In 1868, she started a newspaper that supported equal rights for women. She fought for equal rights for women for most of her life; however, she never received the right to vote. She died in 1906, 14 years before women were allowed to vote.



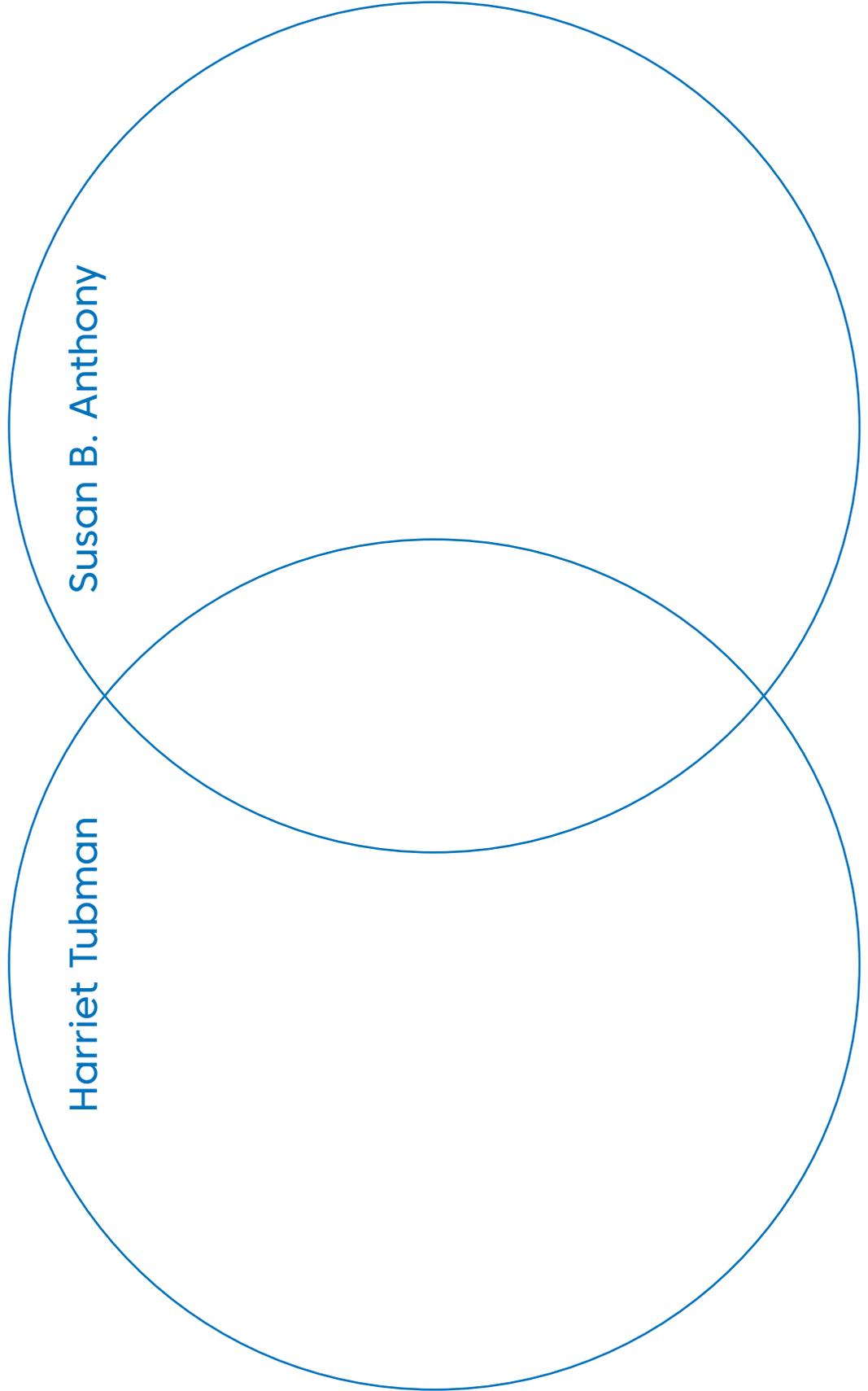


Day 2 (continued)



Use the Venn diagram to compare how Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony are alike and different.

A Venn diagram helps you see quickly how 2 things are alike and different. The likenesses are in the center area where the circles overlap.



Day 3

Read the text about the Constitutional Convention of 1787.
Then, follow the instructions on the next page.



The United States Constitution was written in 1787. However, it was not the first “law of the land.” In 1777, the United States was governed by the Articles of Confederation.

Almost 10 years after the Articles of Confederation were adopted, it was clear that the American government needed revision. Congress had no power to tax and no power to regulate business. But by 1786, the United States could not pay its debts. The government was bankrupt.

The Continental Congress called for a convention to recommend changes to the Articles of Confederation. On May 25, 1787, state leaders met in Philadelphia to face the challenge of reforming the government. It would be a difficult task with so many different points of view and opinions. Reaching an agreement would not be easy.

First, the Virginia Plan was presented. It called for a strong national government. Later, the New Jersey Plan was presented. It called for checking national power and gave Congress more power. The delegates debated the plans.



Day 3 (continued)

Over 4 months, the delegates made many compromises among the plans presented at the convention. On September 17, 1787, a final draft of the Constitution was ready for a vote. 39 of the 55 leaders added their signatures to the Constitution.

1. Use a red crayon or marker to circle when the constitution was written.
2. Underline the name of the first “law of the land” in green.
3. Use a blue crayon or marker to underline the reason(s) why the Articles of the Confederation needed a revision.
4. Circle the reasons why reforming the government would be difficult in yellow.
5. Underline the name of the 2 plans Congress debated in red.
6. Circle the number of leaders who added their name to the constitution in green.

The Constitution is a set of laws, or rules, to protect citizens in the United States. You may have rules at home or at school that you follow. Write about some rules you are expected to follow below.





Day 4



Study the timeline below. Then, answer the questions on the next page.

1872: Victoria Woodhull is the first woman to run for U.S. president. She runs her campaign under the Equal Rights Party. Women cannot vote in 1872. No one counts the votes for her. Ulysses S. Grant wins reelection.

1922: Rebecca Latimer Felton is appointed to the U.S. Senate by the governor of Georgia. She is the first woman senator. She serves only 1 day until the special election winner takes office.

1875

1900

1925

1950

1933: Frances Perkins is appointed Secretary of Labor by President Roosevelt. She is the first woman to serve on a president's cabinet. Cabinet members make suggestions to the president.

1917: Jeannette Rankin, from Montana, is the first woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Women in Montana can vote in 1917. However, women in many states cannot. She is elected 3 years before women in all states gain suffrage.

1932: Hattie Wyatt Caraway of Arkansas is the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate. She is reelected in 1938.



Day 4 (continued)

1. Explain what happened when Victoria Woodhull ran for president.

2. What types of suggestions do you think Frances Perkins made to the president in her role as Secretary of Labor?

3. Who is the first woman appointed to the U.S. Senate?

4. Look at the timeline. How do women's roles in politics change over time?

5. Pick a woman from the timeline. Research more about her. Write your findings below.



Day 5

Use the map of New England to answer the questions below.

1. What is on the eastern border of New England? _____
2. What geographic feature is found in Maine? _____
3. What state is Burlington located in?

4. Which New England state is the largest? _____
5. Which state is bordered by Canada to the north and Vermont to the west?

6. Which New England state is the smallest? _____
7. Which state shares an entire eastern border with Rhode Island?

8. What geographic feature is found in New Hampshire? _____
9. This is a coastal city in Maine. _____
10. What borders New England to the north? _____

