

## Curriculum Guide for U.S. Constitutional Amendments Card Set

**Materials:** Timeline Scroll  
U.S. Constitution Card Set  
Reference Materials on Constitutional Amendments

**Prerequisite(s):** Students should have a good understanding of the concept of time and time notation. Ideally, students should be familiar with the BC/AD timeline presentation. In addition, students should have basic knowledge of the Constitution and why it is important in the history of the United States.

### **Presentation:**

1. Unroll the timeline scroll.
2. Separate the cards into 3 piles – Amendment Cards, Ratification Cards and Time Division Cards.
3. Starting with the first long tick mark, place the Time Division Card 1770 and continue placing the cards alternately above and below the timeline at each consecutive long tick mark, ending with the Time Division Card 2000.
4. Using reference material and the information supplied, place the Amendment Cards and the Ratification Cards on the timeline using the smaller tick marks to approximate the dates of ratification.
5. After completing all Amendments, gather cards, roll up the scroll and return to the shelf.

**Notes:** Students will undoubtedly notice that the first ten Amendments all have the same Ratification Date. This is a great opportunity to discuss the Bill of Rights and make observations as to when in history other groups of Amendments were ratified in close proximity.

### **Extensions:**

1. Have students look up vocabulary words such as ratification, suffrage, prohibition, succession, or other words that appear on the cards that are confusing or “old-fashioned”.
2. Memorize the Preamble to the Constitution. Use the “Schoolhouse Rock” song to help you out!
3. Research famous Supreme Court cases (Brown v. Board of Education, Roe V. Wade, etc.) and the amendments they call into question.
4. Calculate the time between when an Amendment was introduced and when it was ratified. What was the longest time? The shortest?