

Teacher's Guide for COBBLESTONE: HAMILTON vs. JEFFERSON: The RISE of POLITICAL PARTIES

September 2008 Issue

Teacher's Guide prepared by: Nancy Attebury, B.S. Elementary Ed., M.A. Children's Literature. She is a children's author from Oregon.

A Difficult Task, pages 2-3 Critical Reading Group Discussion

1. Why was George Washington's job as first president of the U. S. so difficult?
2. Did he want to rule like a king? Why or why not?
3. What was his plan for the nation's finances?
4. What did he want to do with Great Britain and the Western Frontier?
5. Who were Washington's chief advisors?
6. Why did Washington disapprove of political parties?

Fight for the Constitution, pages 4-6 Place views and Americans in the correct columns.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wanted power at state and local levels. 2. Wanted a strong central government. 3. Strongly supported the Constitution. 4. Were suspicious of a government with a single president. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patrick Henry 2. Thomas Jefferson 3. Alexander Hamilton 4. James Madison |
|--|--|

Federalist

Anti-Federalist

Birth of a Party, pages 7-9 Work in groups. Assign one of these topics to each group:

- Why Hamilton wanted successful merchants and businessmen to run the country
- How did Hamilton feel about the nation's debt
- How did Hamilton feel about taxation
- What did Hamilton propose for banking

Have each group share their ideas with the class.

Government of the People, pages 10-12

Thomas Jefferson held these jobs. Research and explain his duties for each position.

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. A writer of the Declaration of Independence | 2. Governor of Virginia |
| 3. Ambassador to France | 4. U.S. Secretary of State |
| 5. Leader of the Democratic-Republican party | 6. President of the U.S. |

Clubs, Candidates, and Cadres, pages 12-13

- What does it mean to be working from the "grassroots up"?
- Explain how clubs helped campaigning.
- Explain the term *cadre* and what it meant to political party organization.
- How did candidates use handbills, pamphlets, and newspapers to their benefit?
- Why was an eagle a popular symbol for the United States?

Election That Fractured a Friendship, pages 14-16 Post these headings:

“Ways Adams and Jefferson were alike and beliefs they agreed about”

“Ways they were different and beliefs they disagreed about”

Using the article, list several items under each heading and then discuss as a class.

Eeny, Meeny, page 17

- Political cartoons offer insight into what is happening in government. Check out the cartoon on this page. Explain the following:
 1. Why are Jefferson and Burr in the cartoon? What are they doing?
 2. Why are Charles Pinckney and John Adams in the cartoon?
 3. Why are the names of the political parties shown?
 4. How did the passage of the 12th amendment in 1804 resolve the issue shown?
 - Find political cartoons in a newspaper and discuss them as a class.

Tangled Party Roots, pages 18-21

Set up a time line with these dates:

1792 1800 1804 1824 1828 1836 1840 1856 1860 1930 1960s 1990s

Divide into small groups. Use the article. List what happened with political parties for each date.

Divided We Fail, page 22

1. Why is the term “divided we fail” a good one to consider for all Americans?
2. How does it affect you and your classmates and you and your family?
 - Consider the combination donkey / elephant symbol that goes with the phrase. What two animals would you choose for political parties? Why? Draw the animals separately and then combine them to represent “divided we fail.”

Did You Know?, pages 24-25

Pretend your teacher is running for president. As a class, come up with five catchy slogans that might help the teacher win. Explain why the slogans would work.

Can I Count on Your Vote, pages 26-29

Create and share

Study the promotional items in the article. Find similar political items on the internet. Put your creative skills to work. Design a button, a poster, a hat, and one other item to promote two candidates for office. Use fictional book characters or make up your own.

The Rise and Fall of Third Parties, pages 30-33

- Explain the major idea of these third parties.
 1. Free Soil
 2. Socialist
 3. Progressive
 4. Libertarian
 5. Green
- Use these vocabulary words and phrases in your explanations.

environment	slavery	restore ideals	regulate industry	pacifism
-------------	---------	----------------	-------------------	----------

Party Pros and Cons, pages 36-38

1. What are some pros in having two parties?
2. What are some cons in having two parties?
3. Why do Professors John H. Aldrich and Gerald Pomper believe parties are necessary?

Parties Around the World, page 40

1. How does a three party system work in Finland?
2. What is a nonpartisan democracy?
3. What is a single party government?
 - Would any of these systems work for America? Why or why not?

Answers pages 4-6

Federalist	Anti-Federalist
2. Wanted a strong central government.	1. Wanted power at state and local levels.
3. Strongly supported the Constitution.	4. Were suspicious of a government with a single president.
3. Alexander Hamilton	1. Patrick Henry
4. James Madison	2. Thomas Jefferson