



Frances S. Tucker K-8 Center

Summer Reading for Incoming 5th Graders

(Current 4th Grade students)

Book: "Shh! We're Writing the Constitution" by Jean Fritz Assignment

Summer Reading Assignment

After Reading the book choose one of the following to complete. Assignment will be collected during the first week of school for a grade.

"Founding Father/Mother" Trading Cards

Concept: Students choose 3-5 key figures from the book (e.g., James Madison, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Gouverneur Morris, even some of the lesser known but interesting delegates) and create trading cards for each.

Suggested Materials: Index cards, construction paper, markers, colored pencils

What must be included on each trading card:

Front of the card	Back of the card
Drawing or picture of the person	Key facts about the person (e.g., state represented, job/role).
Name of the person	One or two important contributions they made to the Constitution or debates
Catchy "Founding father/mother" Nickname (i.e. "The Father of the Constitution")	An interesting "fun fact" about them (from the book or simple research)
	A "strength" and a "weakness" related to their personality or role in the process (e.g., "Strength: Excellent debater," "Weakness: Often fell asleep during speeches").

Constitutional Compromise Comic Strip

Concept: Students choose one of the major compromises discussed in the book (e.g., The Great Compromise, the 3/5ths Compromise, the compromise over the slave trade) and illustrate it as a short comic strip.

Suggested Materials: Paper, pencils, markers, crayons

What must be included in your Comic Strip

Characters	Represent the different sides of the debate (e.g., large states vs. small states).
Dialogue	Simple speech bubbles explaining their arguments.
The Problem	Clearly show what the disagreement was
The Compromise	Show how the delegates eventually came to an agreement. Resolution: What the outcome was.

