Together, the U.S. Capitol, The White House, the National Park Service's National Mall & Memorials Park, the Supreme Court and the National Archives provide the perfect setting for learning about our nation’s Constitution. The We The People Consortium of educators (1) has developed a full-day We the People Constitution Field Study for eighth-grade students in the District of Columbia Public and Public Charter Schools. Participation in the Field Study is free of charge, offers a pre-trip in-school presentation, provides door-to-door transportation and lunch, also free of charge.

The Field Study has been developed to address the overarching question: How is the Constitution alive in our city? One of the following Compelling Questions will be discussed at each site visited during the day-long Field Study.

- Can a leader create unity?
- Does government protect the power of the individual?
- Can people change the roles and responsibilities of the government?

**Schedule**:  
- 8:30am – The Field Study bus arrives at the school.
- 8:45am – Students and chaperones are on-board and Field Study begins. Students discuss the definition of a constitution and what it means for a constitution to be alive.
- 9:30am – Students explore the George Mason Memorial to examine the importance of leadership and unity in our country.
- 10:15am – Students arrive at the West Front of the U.S. Capitol. Here the focus is on the importance of the geographical location of the Capitol and the role and responsibilities of Congress.
- 10:45am – Students Visit the U.S. Capitol Rotunda and investigate Congress and the power of the individual.
- 11:40am – Students have lunch in the Capitol Café.
- 12:10pm – From the East Front of the Capitol, students get a look at and begin to explore the Supreme Court of the United States (We do not go inside the Supreme Court building.)
- 12:35pm – After a ride-by of the White House, students stop at the White House Visitor Center to examine the actions of various presidents and discuss leaders and the creation of unity.
- 1:40pm – The National Archives is the last stop of the day. Here students view the original U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights and explore the changing roles and responsibilities of our government.
- 3:00pm – The students arrive back at school.

*The day’s schedule is subject to change.

1 The We the People Consortium of Educators includes the U.S. Capitol Historical Society, Children’s Concierge, the Federal Courts, the National Archives and Records Administration, Restaurant Associates, the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, USA Guided Tours, the U.S. National Park Service, the White House Historical Association, and the White House Visitor Center.
National and Local Standards Addressed and Supported by the We the People Constitution Field Study

DC Social Studies Content Power Standards for Unit 3 – “Creation and Compromise: The Constitution:”

8.3.3 – Explain the Constitution and its successors in implementing the ideals of the Declaration of Independence.

8.3.4 – Evaluate the major debates that occurred during the development of the Constitution and their ultimate resolutions in such areas as shared power among institutions, divided state-federal power.

8.3.6 – Describe the principals of federalism, dual sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, the nature and purpose of majority rule and the ways in which the American idea of constitutionalism pre-serves individual rights.

DC Social Studies Content Supporting Standards for Unit 3 – “Creation and Compromise: The Constitution:”

8.3.9 – Describe the powers of government set forth in the Constitution and he fundamental liberties ensured by the Bill of Rights

The C3 Standards that Align with this Field Study:

D1.1: Explain how a question represents key ideas in the field.

D2.Civ.7: Apply civic virtues and democratic principles in school and community settings.

D3.1: Gather relevant information from multiple sources while using the origin, authority, structure, context, and corroborative value of the sources to guide the selection.

D3.2: Evaluate the credibility of a source by determining its relevance and intended use.

D3.3: Identify evidence that draws information from multiple sources to support claims, noting evidentiary limitations.

D4.1: Construct arguments using claims and evidence from multiple sources, while acknowledging the strengths and limitations of the arguments.

The Common Core State Standards that Align with this Field Study:

RH.3: Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies (e.g., how a bill becomes law, how interest rates are raised or lowered).

SL1: Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

To Book the Field Study

We the People Constitution Field Study will be conducted this year from Monday, October 15, 2018 thru Friday, March 1, 2019. To book contact Dee Hoffman with Children’s Concierge via telephone 301-309-6601 or via email deethepeople@gmail.com.

For available Field Study dates please visit https://uschs.org/educate/tour-dates/