## CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION INDEPENDENT STUDY MENU

Choose one delegate to the
Constitutional Convention. Create
a presentation researching where
he grew up, which state he
represented, what kind of
education he received, what was
his occupation, and what types of
arguments he made at the
Convention. Did your delegate
sign the Constitution? Why or why
not? (Do not choose George
Washington). Be sure to include a
picture or graphic of your delegate.

Research the Virginia Plan and New Jersey Plan. Create diagram explaining each plan in detail (use James Madison's notes to help you with quotes), including who wrote each plan and who introduced each plan.

George Washington retired from public life at the end of the war. Find the letter that Washington wrote to all the state governors announcing his retirement (Circular Letter). Many historians believe that Washington's actions represented civic virtue. In a short essay using Washington's letter, answer the following questions:

Do you agree with historians, was Washington's action an example of civic virtue?

What is civic virtue?

Write a short summary of the Great Compromise and explain in your opinion which side (small states or large states) benefitted the most from the compromise.

The word *slavery* or *slave* is never used in the final document of the Constitution. Yet slavery existed. Why would the Founders not include the word in the document? Where in the document is slavery referred to? Does the Constitution project slavery or does it prohibit it? Write an essay answering these questions.

Research the 3/5<sup>th</sup> Compromise. Create a *Wordle* with the details of the 3/5<sup>th</sup> Compromise. Write a short paragraph stating, in your opinion, which side benefitted most from the compromise, the Northern States or the Southern States.

Research the Roman solider Cincinnatus – Create a diagram comparing George Washington and Cincinnatus, how are they alike or different? At one time, creating death masks was very widespread, and an important cultural aspect to morning rituals for many people. This practice has declined radically since the advent of photography. Choose a delegate to the Convention and create a death mask to show us what your person may have looked like at the time of his death.

Research the Fugitive Slave Clause. Write two letters one from the perspective of a slave owner and one from the perspective of a Northern industrialist (without slaves). How would each side react to the Fugitive Slave Clause? Be specific about the details of the Commerce Compromise which contained the Fugitive Slave Clause.

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