

CREATING A GOVERNMENT

Instructions: As a colony, you need to decide the needs of your people and what you'd like to see in a national government. Keep in mind the information you know about your colony as you answer these questions—size, economy, reasons for establishment, cultural differences, etc.

- A. Do we want to keep the Articles of Confederation? Why or why not? Do we want to revise or throw them out entirely and start again? Why?
- B. Do we want a strong central government? Why? What powers will the central government have?
- C. Do we want a leader? Should we call him a king? Why or why not? What should we call him if it's not a king? What if the leader gets too powerful? What should we allow the leader to be able to do? How will we make sure he doesn't get tyrannical?
- D. *What about a group to make laws? Should it be the leader? A Congress—a group of representatives from each state? How many people should make up Congress? How will that number be determined? By size of state? Or same representatives for each state, no matter the size?
- E. If you decided to create a Congress based on the population of the states, answer this question: if not, go on. Should children and women count as population even though they probably won't be allowed to vote? What about slaves? Are slaves considered population?
- F. Who will choose Congress? Who should we let vote? Everyone? Even people who cannot read or write and may know nothing of politics? What if the people vote for an evil leader?