

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



## It Takes Time

The creation of a government that carefully balanced individual rights and government powers took time. Many events led to the freedoms that Americans enjoy today.

Read each fact. Number the facts in chronological order. Next, cut out the boxes and arrange them in order on a sheet of paper. Then glue the boxes to the paper to form a timeline.

### A Historical Timeline of the United States Constitution

The first state to ratify the Constitution was Delaware. This took place on December 7, 1787.



In August 1786, a rebellion led by Daniel Shays broke out in Massachusetts. This showed the weakness of the national government.



The Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776.



In May 1790, Rhode Island became the last state to sign the Constitution.



The Constitution was signed four months later by 39 of the 55 delegates present.



The American Revolution began in April 1775.



On March 1, 1781, the Articles of Confederation went into effect.



In May 1787, delegates arrived in Philadelphia for a convention. This would later become known as the Constitutional Convention.



On June 21, 1788, the Constitution was put into effect with the approval of the ninth state, New Hampshire.



Almost two years later, Congress declared an official end to the Revolutionary War by signing the Treaty of Paris.



On July 16, 1790, legislation making the District of Columbia the permanent federal capital was signed.



On December 15, 1791, the first ten amendments to the Constitution, called the Bill of Rights, were approved.



On October 19, 1781, British General Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown.



George Washington was sworn in as the first president under the Constitution. The date was April 30, 1789.

