

## Constitutional Story

Read the story below. Fill in the blanks with words found in the text of *Shh! We're Writing the Constitution*. Then write the words in the proper spaces of the Constitutional Fill-In on page 20.

After the Revolutionary War, the 1. \_\_\_\_\_ was instituted by the thirteen states. Each state 2. \_\_\_\_\_ would send delegates there when it was necessary to act on matters of common concern. One thing this committee did was establish the 3. \_\_\_\_\_, a set of rules to loosely hold the states together. By 1786 George 4. \_\_\_\_\_ and some others knew that changes were needed. They suggested to the Congress that all the states send 5. \_\_\_\_\_ to a 6. \_\_\_\_\_ in Philadelphia. There they would gather to revise the old Articles thus making the 7. \_\_\_\_\_ work better. When enough 8. \_\_\_\_\_ had assembled, the group elected Washington as 9. \_\_\_\_\_ of the convention. Because they knew that there would be many arguments, they kept the 10. \_\_\_\_\_ secret. Before each meeting, doors were locked, 11. \_\_\_\_\_ were stationed in the hall, and windows were kept closed. Many ideas were proposed including the 12. \_\_\_\_\_ by Edmund Randolph. This plan called for three branches of government—the executive, the legislative, and the 13. \_\_\_\_\_—all of which still exist today. Many points were argued over, but probably none caused more concern than how to represent the states in 14. \_\_\_\_\_. Finally, the 15. \_\_\_\_\_ was hammered out. After four long, hot months of deliberations the 16. \_\_\_\_\_ was born.

