Major Principles of the Constitution

	Definition	Where is it found in the Constitution	Illustration
Popular Sovereignty	Principle that the authority of the government is created and sustained by the consent of its people, through their elected representatives (Rule by the People), who are the source of all political power.	Preamble, Article I and Amendment 9	YOUR VOTE HUND IS YOUR TO HUND
Federalism	the constitutional relationship between U.S. state governments and the federal government of the United States	Article 1, Sec 8 Amendment 10 Article V Necessary and proper clause (elastic clause) Commerce clause Supremacy Clause	Federalism Powers Delegated to the National Government • declare war • establish local governments • declare war • establish local governments • create and maintain armed forces • raise taxes • establish foreign policy • provide for the public welfare • make copyright and patent laws • baild roady • establish postal officer • baild roady • coin money • provide for
Separation of Powers	Power is divided between the three branches of government	Article I, II, III	Separation of Powers UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION Article 1 Legislative Branch Congress makes the laws. Article 2 Executive Branch President enforces the laws. Article 3 Judicial Branch Supreme Court interprets the law.
Limited Government	The idea that government power is set within pre- defined limits that are established by a constitution (the people)	Article I, II, III	DONT TREAD ON ME

Checks and Balances	With checks and balances, each of the three branches of government can limit the powers of the others. This way, no one branch becomes too powerful. Each branch "checks" the power of the other branches to make sure that the power is balanced between them.	Article I, II, III	Separation of Power and Checks and Balances
Rule of Law	Everyone – including the government and its officials – are subject to the law. No one is above the law.	Similar to the principle of limited government – the govt can't just do anything it wants. This idea is embedded throughout the Constitution's expressed and denied power, and in the Bill of Rights.	Due Process Rule of Law Enforceability/ Accountability Stability
Expressed Powers	Powers of the government that are spelled out expressly in the Constitution. Also called the "enumerated" (or listed) powers.	In Article I, Section 8 (Powers of Congress) there are 18 powers expressly given to Congress Article II, Section 2 gives expressed powers to the President .	Congress can: collect taxes, coin money, regulate commerce The President is Commander-in-Chief, makes treaties & appointments,

Implied Powers and the "Necessary & Proper Clause"	Powers of the government that are NOT expressly stated in the Constitution, but that are "reasonably suggested", or "implied " by the expressed powers.	Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 gives Congress the "necessary and proper power " for carrying out the duties that are expressed elsewhere in the Constitution.	Examples of Implied Powers • Congress sets a federal minimum wage. • Congress established the United States Air Force. • Congress creates federal laws against pollution.
Reserved Powers	Powers that the Constitution does not give to the National Government, yet does not deny to the States.	The 10 th Amendment reminds us that powers not expressly given to the National government are reserved to the states.	States can do just about anything Reserved Powers • Powers reserved for the States • These powers are protected by the 10 th Amendment • Not all are specifically stated Examples: • Establish Schools • Marriage Laws • Regulate trade within border
Supremacy Clause (Article VI, Paragraph 2)	The Constitution (and laws made according to it) are the Supreme Law of the Land. State Constitutions and State Laws cannot overrule or contradict national laws.	(Article VI, Paragraph 2)	The Supremacy Clause (Article VI, Section 2) United States constitution Acts of buffer one "wins." United States Constitution State States Constitution State States Constitution State States Constitution State States Constitution State Constitution State States Constitution State States Constitution State States Constitution State States Constitution State Constitution State States Constitution State States Constitution State States Constitution State Constitution State States Constitution State States Constitution States Consti
Judicial Review	The power of the court to determine if an action of government is Constitutional. The Court can find a law or executive action to be unconstitutional.	Not expressly stated, but makes sense if the Judicial Branch is to have any checks over the other two branches.	Supreme Court