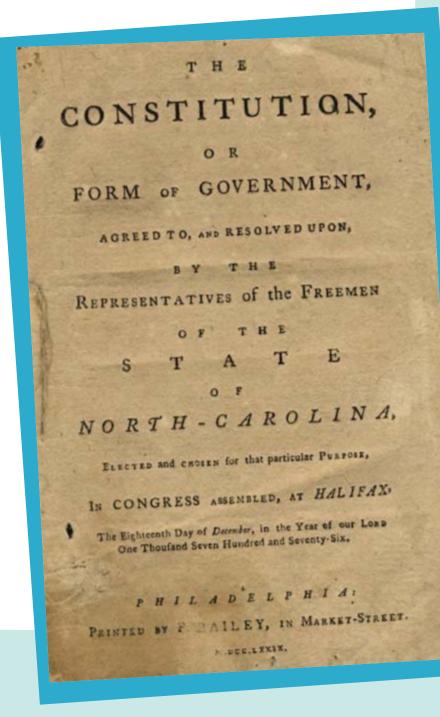
North Carolina STATE CONSTITUTION

There is a U.S. Constitution. Its content is broader in nature compared to state constitutions. Specifically, state constitutions are more specific and longer than the U.S. Constitution. Each state has its own government and its own constitution. These constitutions are often amended (changed) more frequently.

North Carolina has had three state constitutions. One was drafted in 1776. (In 1835, there were many revisions made to the 1776 Constitution.) The second was drafted in 1868. The third was approved in 1971; it is still in effect.



(1971 North Carolina Constituion)

The state constitution has many interesting features. See if you can find the answers to these questions.

You can find the North Carolina Constitution here: https://www.ncleg.gov/EnactedLegislation/Constitution/NCConstitution.html

- 1. How many Articles are in the North Carolina Constitution?
- 2. The North Carolina government consists of how many branches of government? Hint: see Articles II, III, and IV (2, 3, and 4).
- 3. Why do you think the branches are listed in this particular orderlegislative, executive, and judicial?
- 4. Does the state constitution have a Declaration of Rights?
- 5. How many sections are there in the Declaration of Rights?
- 6. Which three do you like the best or think most important?
- 7. Why is the North Carolina Constitution important? (See the Preamble.)
- 8. Who are the leading two political figures in the executive branch? Hint: see Article III (3).



Scavenger Hunt (1971 North Carolina Constituion)

ANSWER KEY

- 1. 14
- 2. 3
- 3. The design was for one the legislature to have more power than the executive and for the judicial to have the amount of power. It is like a first place, second place, and a third place.
- 4. Yes
- 5. 38
- 6. Answer is open to students' interpretations.
- 7. Answer is open to students' interpretations.
- 8. Governor and Lieutenant Governor

