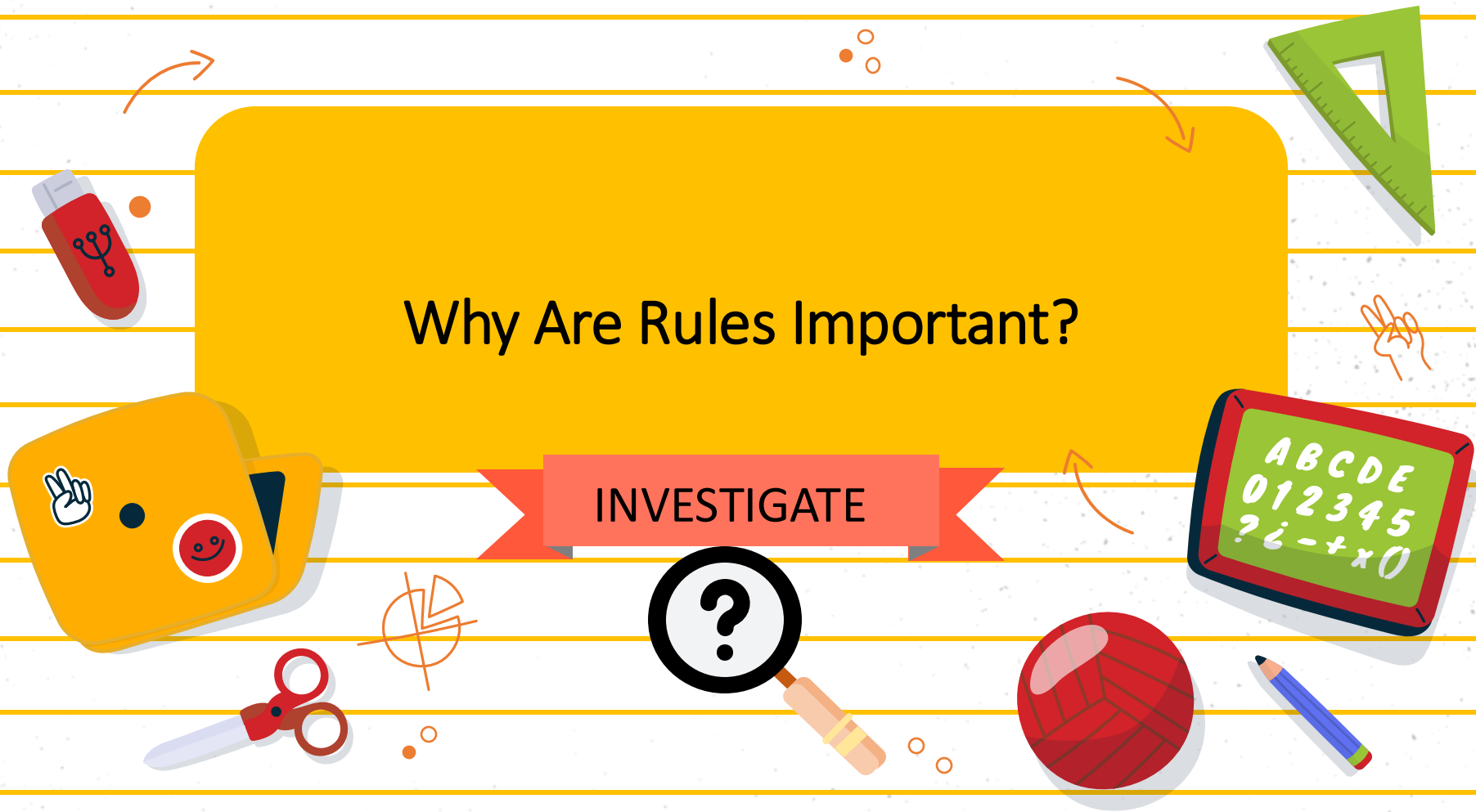


Why Are Rules Important?

INVESTIGATE



2.3

What Were The Articles of Confederation?



As a Young Political Scientist, I will be able to...

- **Analyze the Articles of Confederation**
- **Compare & Contrast the Virginia & New Jersey Plans**

The Articles of Confederation

States would argue over how much money that each state should pay into a common treasury based on population.

Eventually they decided based on the value of land, not people.

Second debate was over voting power in Congress. They decided that each state gets 1 vote.

November 15, 1777 the [Articles of Confederation](#) were approved.

More on the Articles

Each state kept its “sovereignty, freedom, & independence” but would come together for the common defense

Articles needed to go through [ratification](#), formal approval from the states, eventually with the signing by Maryland in 1781

Government was a unicameral made up of delegates chosen yearly by the States.

Articles had no executive or judicial branch, instead having those functions handled by committees of Congress.

Congressional Powers & the States

Congress ran every aspect of government from making war to setting up money systems

The States would provide funding & troops & treat citizens of other states equally.

They gave *full faith & credit*- Each state accept public acts, records, & judicial proceedings of other states

States would retain powers not explicitly given by Congress & were in charge of protecting life & liberty

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Major Weaknesses

Congress did not have the power to tax, it could only borrow money.

Congress could not regulate trade among the states

Congress had no power to make states obey the Articles of Confederation or its laws

Congress need 9 out of 13 consent from its delegations but changes to the Articles had to be unanimous from the states

Troubles Brewing...

States would argue amongst themselves with no central government after the Revolution.

States would make agreements with foreign governments, create issues with trades, & printed their own money

Debts & economic chaos spread through the colonies

Shays Rebellion- Daniel Shays led an armed uprising to combat debt conditions for people losing their land & possessions

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A Demand for Stronger Government

1785 The colonies recognized they needed a new form of government

Alexander Hamilton & James Madison persuade another meeting of the states

This meeting would become the Constitutional Convention to change the Articles of Confederation

The Framers Meet

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**12 of the 13 colonies send delegates to
Philadelphia to begin construction on a
new government**

**They were known as Framers, or the delegates
who attended the Philadelphia
Convention**

**Major people included James Madison,
Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton,
& George Washington**

**These individuals were a “new generation” in
American Politics**

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Rules of Procedure

They met in the Pennsylvania State House (now Independence Hall)

They waited for a **quorum, fewest number of people present for the legislature to conduct business.**

They needed a majority vote to carry a proposal & was needed “for the sole & express purpose to recommend revisions to the Articles of Confederation

They decided to create a government with 3 branches to oversee the new nation

Debates & Compromise

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The Connecticut Compromise- Proposed that Congress should be 2 houses. The House & the Senate AKA The Great Compromise

The Three-Fifths Compromise- All “free persons” are counted for population as well at 3/5ths of slaves

The Commerce & Slave Trade Compromise- Congress could not tax exports & could not act on the slave trade for 20 years

Franklin called these part of “a bundle of compromises”