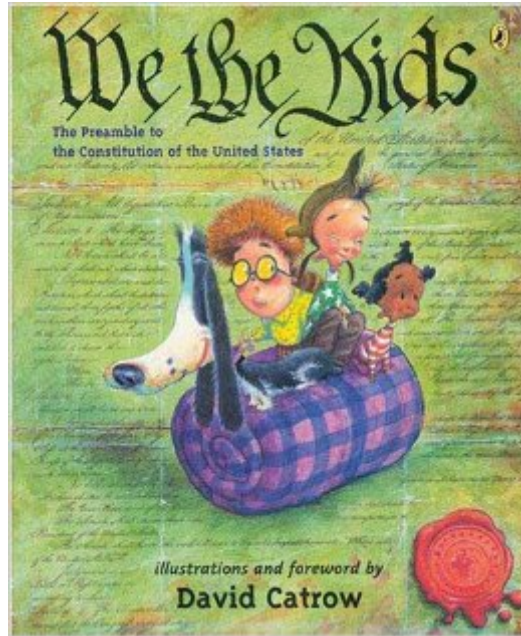


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# We The Kids: The Preamble To The Constitution Of The United States



## Synopsis

Brush up on the Preamble to the Constitution with this patriotic picture book and have a couple of good laughs while you're at it! A long time ago some smart guys wrote the Preamble to the Constitution. You have probably read it before, but do you know what it means? And did it ever make you laugh? Now it will! Perfect for inspiring discussion in classrooms and around kitchen tables, this fun-filled and cheerfully illustrated look at the Preamble provides an accessible introduction to America's founding ideals for citizens of all ages. Includes a glossary of terms and a foreword by the artist. "This zany, patriotic paean offers kids lighthearted but meaningful incentive to reflect further on the relevance of those 'big words' and 'big ideas.'" — Publishers Weekly

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: NP (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (April 21, 2005)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (67 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,121 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > General #1 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Government #1 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Law & Crime

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

As David Catrow tells us in his introduction, "...For me, the Constitution is a kind of how-to book, showing us ways to have happiness, safety, and comfort...", and he uses his immeasurable talents as an artist and cartoonist to teach an inspirational and unforgettable lesson that is sure to open interesting discussions at home and school. Following a glossary of what the actual words in the Preamble of the Constitution mean, (e.g. "IN ORDER TO FORM A MORE PERFECT UNION: To come together and make things better for everyone who lives in our country. INSURE DOMESTIC

TRANQUILITY: To make sure we can all have a nice life and get along with one another. TO OURSELVES AND OUR POSTERITY: For kids, parents, other grown-ups, and all the people born in our country after we are."), Mr Catrow details the meaning of these important ideals, phrase by phrase, using his marvelously bold and busy cartoon illustrations. Each two page spread is a clever feast for the eyes, rich in engaging details, manic energy, and droll humor. Perfect for youngsters 8-12, *We The Kids* is a witty and memorable treasure, and one of the real winners of 2002 that shouldn't be missed.

I read a research study recently that found that struggling readers comprehend picture books better when the author is also the illustrator. This book has got to be the exception to this study! The author's findings! While the author also did the illustrations, the text and illustrations do not go together at all. First off, the book starts with two pages that basically describe the author's feelings about the preamble. It is wordy to the point that no child would ever sit through it. The third page consists of vocabulary words from the preamble with the author's definitions. These definitions are dumbed down to the point that they are no longer accurate. These definitions are insulting to students everywhere. After that, each page has a line from the preamble. That's it! That's the rest of the book. The preamble line-by-line with extremely confusing illustrations to, I guess, help students comprehend the text. I paid a little less than two dollars for this book with the hope of using it in my classroom. After reading it, I wouldn't disrespect a student enough to give it to them. Students are capable of understanding much more than this. I work with second and third graders and they would get bored with this book so quickly. I wouldn't blame them. Please do not waste your money. There are better books out there.

This fun book helped me to reach my fifth grade class in a way their social studies text never would have! Catrow finds a way to take the elegant (and sometimes difficult to translate into kid-talk) language of the Preamble and not only make it simple to understand, but really helps put the kids right in there. He makes it clear that this is a document for all Americans, not only including kids, but maybe especially for kids. His buddy 'Bubbs', is pictured throughout so even the less than interested can be drawn in by finding the dog...So glad I found this!

As a librarian, I recommend this book for everyone from 5 to 105. All right, this is actually a picture book that depicts some wonderful insights into our freedom and basic tenets of this great nation from a child's viewpoint. The hilarious illustrations by David Catrow will delight readers of all ages

and will be fun for those who are not even studying the Constitution. For those students who are studying the Constitution, this book would be a great visual aid to memorizing the Preamble. I have not met a teenager who didn't enjoy a quick read in a great children's picture book. Teachers: Why not reduce the stress level of your students and let them begin their studies with this light-hearted look into some very serious words? Buy a couple of copies and circulate them through the class. Everyone will love them. For the younger reader, ESL or special ed student there is one page explaining the basic meaning of these words and another page and a half explaining why anyone bothered to write the Constitution of the United States. It's ALL GREAT!

I was very disappointed in this book. I purchased it as an introduction of our Constitutional history for my 6 yr. old. It is little more than a picture book with one line of dialogue on each page. Dealing with a 6 yr. old who is always asking why and inquisitive-normal for six yrs., this book could have expended thru out on the topic with more substance. Geared more for childrens in lower age of age catagory listed.Savanna

If you are teaching your children about the preamble to the constitution and are looking for something fun to use as a tool, this is NOT the book you want to purchase. It's opinionated. For example the author states: "it (the Constitution) gave us rights and privileges that nobody had ever had before." The constitution states the rights contained are granted by God, not the constitution. The interpretation of what some of the words and/or phrases in the preamble mean are off. For example: "Promote the general welfare: To help make life good for everybody. Having enough to eat, a place to live, being safe and having friends and fun times are some of the things that make our lives good." You're kidding, right? Lastly, the author instructs children to "check out what the dog is doing in the story to understand what the words in the preamble mean, but the illustrations either vaguely connect with the words or don't connect at all. How does a dog dragging a huge backpack up a hill illustrate forming a more perfect union? Further, I certainly don't want my children thinking domestic tranquility means watching television! Skip it.

Not quite sure what happened here...the book is a picture book with the words to the Preamble on the pages. I expected "fun-filled" read with the kids, as the description stated. The kids were disappointed when all it was was an illustrated Preamble, which they had already learned and memorized. We returned it.

This book was fantastic as a leaping stone for my daughters. My girls were pleased and inspired to open dialog on our Constitution. They began here and moved on to other sources as their questions evolved.

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