



## **BILL OF RIGHTS BINGO**

### **LESSON OVERVIEW:**

This lesson plan teaches students about the rights secured in the Bill of Rights by giving them examples of those rights as they are encountered in the students' daily lives. The Bingo game allows for an energetic activity that leads into a discussion of the rights.

### **GRADE LEVEL:**

This lesson is appropriate for upper elementary and secondary school levels.

### **GOALS:**

As a result of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Think about the role of the Bill of Rights in daily life; and
2. Explore the rights secured by the Bill of Rights.

### **MATERIALS:**

Bill of Rights Bingo Sheet  
Bill of Rights Bingo Possible Answers

### **OUTSIDE RESOURCES:**

None necessary, but an attorney to comment on the exercise or answer questions would enrich the lesson.

### **PROCEDURES/ACTIVITIES:**

☛ Explain the rules of the Bingo game to the students. You may play many ways, but the easiest way to use this lesson is to have the students follow these rules:

- The winner must have every block signed by a different member of the class for whom that item is true;
- No one may sign more than one square on each sheet; and
- Everyone, including the teacher and attorney, participates!



- Once you have a "winner", (a good prize for the winner is a copy of the Constitution) the main part of the lesson begins. Go through each item on the chart and ask the students what connections they see between the activity on the sheet and the Bill of Rights. A sample list of possible connections is included with this lesson.

### **REFLECTIONS ON THE LESSON:**

The class may be loud during the initial exercise. There may also be some hesitancy by the students at first to get moving. The teacher might wish to start the contest by moving around the room and signing different students' bingo sheets to give the students a start on the game.

## BILL OF RIGHTS BINGO POSSIBLE RESPONSES

A few of the possible responses while playing Bill of Rights Bingo are shown below.  
This is only a start. Your class will probably find many other connections.

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Witnessed a crime:  
Sixth Amendment,  
Right to confront witnesses.

Has a copy of the  
Bill of Rights at home:  
Often found in reference, history  
or law books or an encyclopedia.  
Fits all amendments.

Something that locks:  
Home safe, fire box, safety  
deposit box, diary;  
Fourth Amendment,  
Search and Seizure Issues.

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Reads a newspaper regularly:  
First Amendment,  
Freedom of the press.

Believes in capital punishment:  
Eighth Amendment,  
Is the death penalty cruel and  
unusual punishment?

Family member owns a gun:  
Second Amendment,  
Right to bear arms.

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Family rents or owns a home:  
Third Amendment,  
Quartering of troops,  
Implied privacy protection.

**Wild Card Block**  
Anything can fit here, but make  
students explain.

Signed a petition:  
First Amendment,  
Right to petition the government.

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Has social security number:  
Ninth Amendment,  
Rights retained by the people,  
Privacy questions.

Would support a law to deny bail  
for drug "Kingpins":  
Eighth amendment, right to bail.

Family has hired a lawyer:  
Sixth Amendment,  
Assistance of counsel in criminal  
prosecutions.  
Fifth Amendment,  
Miranda warnings by police.

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Family member served on a jury:  
Sixth & Seventh Amendments,  
Trial by jury.

Knows someone who looked in a  
student's purse, locker or pockets  
without the student's permission:  
Fourth Amendment,  
Search and seizure issues.

Attended a church, synagogue,  
mosque or temple:  
First amendment,  
Right of free exercise of religion.

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## *BILL OF RIGHTS BINGO*

witnessed a crime or knows someone who witnessed a crime	has a copy of the Bill of Rights at home	owns something that locks
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reads a newspaper regularly	believes in capital punishment	has a family member who owns a gun or who has kept a gun in the house
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family rents or owns a home	Wild Card Block	signed a petition
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has a social security number	would support a law that drug "Kingpins" should not be released on bail	knows someone who needed a lawyer
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knows anyone who served on a jury	knows someone who looked in a student's purse, locker or pockets without the student's permission	attended a church, synagogue, mosque or temple
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