Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War

Lavery Library, St. John Fisher College
March 2-5, 2015
Welcome

Today's Schedule

Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War

Lavery Library
Introduction
setup for the activity and break out into groups
60 minutes to rotate between 4 stations (15 minutes each)
  o Exhibit panels
  o Video
  o Primary documents
  o Constitution center
20 minutes for each group to deliberate
  and prepare their presentations to the group
20 minutes to report out (5 minutes per group)
  - to be led by the Speaker of the House

Skalny Welcome Center
Lunch
Campus tour

"B'onitatem et disciplinam et scientiam doce me."
  "Teach me goodness, discipline and knowledge."

Kearney Bell Tower, St. John Fisher College
Honorable Congress Persons,

Today you have a solemn charge. To vote your conscience based on evidence:

Do we impeach President Abraham Lincoln?

The Articles of Impeachment:
The set of charges drafted against the president to initiate the impeachment process.

The House of Representatives will:
Investigate the charges
Debate the validity of the charges
Bringing the articles to a vote before the full body, lead by the Speaker of the House.

The Articles of Impeachment

President Lincoln is charged with exceeding his Constitutional Powers as Executive of the United States in the following ways:

Violating Civil liberties in his suspension of Habeas Corpus

By Issuing the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing slaves held within states in rebellion within the United States

By authorizing the recruitment of blacks troops to serve as soldiers during the war
Gathering Place & Video

What evidence do the videos provide for and against President Lincoln's Impeachment on the topics of:

Habeas Corpus?

The Emancipation Proclamation?

The use of Black Soldiers?
Primary Documents

What evidence do the primary documents provide for and against President Lincoln's Impeachment on the topics of:

Habeas Corpus?

The Emancipation Proclamation?

The use of Black Soldiers?
What evidence does the US Constitution and the books available to you provide for and against President Lincoln's Impeachment on the topics of:

Habeas Corpus?

Presidential Powers?

Impeachment?
What evidence do the exhibit panels provide for and against President Lincoln's impeachment?

Divided

Bound

Dissent

Launching 'The Intrepid', the US's first aerial vehicle used in combat
Deliberation & Verdict

- Choose a representative to speak for your group
- Choose a scribe to take notes on the white board
- Take a vote! Remember – you must come to a group decision
- Did Abraham Lincoln Exceed his Constitutional Powers?
- If he did, Vote Yes to Impeach
- If he didn’t, Vote No
- As a group, identify at least 2 pieces of evidence that helped you decide
- Get ready to report to the larger group

Special Thanks to the SJFC Political Science Department