

## KYA Class Curriculum: Kentucky Youth Assembly; An Exploration of History, Politics, and Self-Government

### Lesson 1.4: Federalism: Why KY was 15<sup>th</sup> State, Not a Province of The Empire of Virginia

Approximate Time: 45 minutes

Learning Goal: Emphasize the importance to the idea of self-government of the decision to add new republics (states) to the “Union” rather than add territory to existing states.

Materials: Unit 1 Power Point; Map Assignment: North America, 1783 from previous lesson.

**Bellringer/Intro: (5-10 minutes):** Display the following prompt:

*Please take out your maps from yesterday. USING PENCIL!, do your best to draw in from memory the boundaries of the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, and any others you think you can manage!*

As students work, move around room and score/check that they have completed the map, giving a score as you go.

*Ok, so you'll have a chance in a second to see how you did. Yesterday we talked about the options the Original 13 Colonies/States had for dealing with all the land they received in the Treaty of Paris. Let's recall them quickly:*

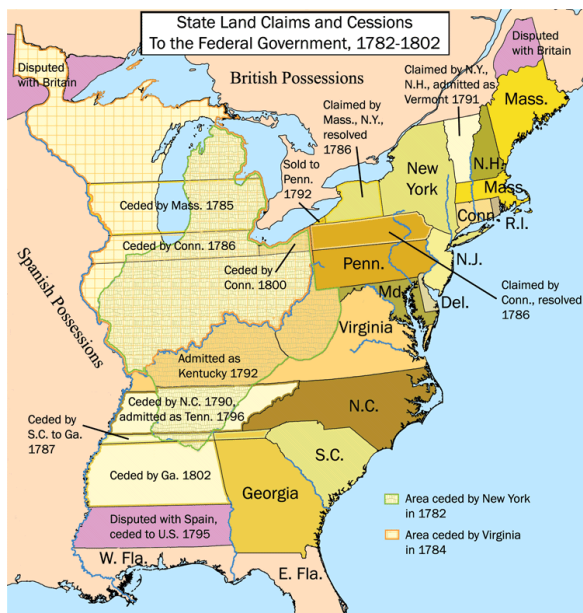
*\*divide it up among each of the original 13 colonies*

*\*let it be a free-for-all, citizens of each colony go out and claim whatever they can in the name of their home colony*

*\*let the new US government, the overall Confederation Congress take charge of the land*

**Map/Discussion: (10-15 minutes)**

*In a way, all of the things we mentioned happened to some extent. Let's have a look (display map of State Land Claims and Cessions to the Federal Government, 1782-1802)*



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*As you can see, New York and Virginia each originally claimed huge chunks of the land between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River. Massachusetts, Connecticut, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia all claimed swaths of land in these strips that extended from their existing borders more or less Westward to the Mississippi River.*

*There's a lot of crazy borders and land claims going on here. Can you see anywhere else where a land dispute happened and had to be resolved?*

*\*NY and New Hampshire both claim area that will end up being Vermont.*

*\*NY and Mass both claim a big hunk that will eventually go to New York.*

*\*Connecticut claims a big ole strip but ends up conceding all of it to Pennsylvania and Fed. Gov.*

*If it had persisted this way, it might have led to a lot of strife and friction, as each of the new states fought to become little empires in their own right. In the meantime, settlers were already streaming into all these new lands, raising the question of how they would be governed...whose jurisdiction they would be under. There was a risk of the Original 13 Colonies becoming 13 little competing Empires, squabbling and perhaps going to war over territory and resources.*

### **NOTES: Northwest Ordinance and US Constitution, Article IV, Sections 3 & 4**

*First the "Articles of Confederation" gov., and then the United States gov. under the Constitution of 1789 made a critical decision about how all this land would be handled:*

Display these notes to be copied by students into class notebooks/folders:

***Northwest Ordinance of 1785: passed under the "Confederation Congress" of the Articles of Confederation, it established that land would be sold to private citizens and then new territories admitted as co-equal states of the Union.***

#### ***US Constitution (1789):***

***Article IV, Section 3: "New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union;"***

***Article IV, Section 4: "The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government."***

*Ask students: Why is this a big deal? What does this say about that generation's attitude about self-government and the idea of Independence?*

Allow discussion but look for and/or direct towards:

*\*belief in "consent of the governed" as expressed in Declaration*

*\*commitment to spread of ideas self-government through republican principles (representative gov.)*

*\*recognition of a binding, central authority in the Federal Gov.*

*Let's take a moment to really zero in on this one part of the Constitution shown here: The "United States" shall guarantee to "every State." What does even the literal language here show?*

Allow discussion but direct towards:

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*\*There is a central gov. with special authority/responsibility superimposed on the individual states.*

*\*People are recognizing that they have a government for their individual state, AND a government of them all, the Union of States...the United States. This is known as Federalism!*

Add Federalism to notes for the day:

**Federalism: a system of government in which power is shared and distributed between a central government and the constituent local/state governments.**