

NEWSEUM BATTLE FOR THE BILL OF RIGHTS

Name _____ Date _____

Framing the First Amendment in the Newseum

Now that you know some of the history of the Bill of Rights, it's time to learn more in the Newseum.

Visit the Great Books Gallery (Level 5)

The books on display here represent some of the great cornerstones of democratic writing. Find a book that you like — it might be because of the book's size, the writing on the page or because you recognize the name — whatever makes you gravitate toward that book. You can “flip” through some of the pages of your book using the monitors next to the cases. Answer the questions below about your book.

Title of book: _____

Author: _____

Date published: _____

Why did you choose this book? _____

Do you think this book might have influenced those arguing for or against a Bill of Rights? How might it have influenced the authors of the Bill of Rights? Do you think it supports individual rights or argues against them?

Take a look at the printing press model outside the News History Gallery. Watch some of the video and be sure to touch the type on the railing. It took much longer to print things using a printing press than it does with a computer.

Why are the letters backward in the type on the railing? _____

What do you think would be the hardest part about printing using a press?

What would be the coolest thing about printing using a press? _____

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Visit the News History Gallery (Level 5)

Head to the timeline in the center of the gallery. Find the cases with artifacts from 1775 to 1789. Take a look at the newspapers and magazines displayed here. Pick one of the artifacts and answer the questions below.

Name of publication: _____

Date of publication: _____

Place of publication: _____

What is the publication? Magazine? Newspaper? _____

What does it include? News stories? Government decrees? Opinions about the actions of the government? _____

Can you read the publication or at least some of it? Is it written in modern American English?

What type of person do you think would have read this? _____
