

# The Preamble

## The Spirit of America



# 1787

The war with England was over. The United States of America was a free nation. But soon, the country was in trouble. The government was weak. It had very little money. People were unhappy. Something had to be done. If not, the new nation would fail.



In May 1787, George Washington traveled to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Other leaders joined him there. Their job was to fix what wasn't working. The nation's future was in their hands.

They met for four months. They talked. They wrote. They argued. They rewrote. Finally, they agreed.



Washington and other leaders in 1787

Jump into Fiction



# A Big Day in Philadelphia

The line is so long, Mom. This will take forever! Can't we just go to the park instead?

Voting is my right under the Constitution. It's an important part of being a citizen of the United States. I don't care how long I have to wait in line.

What's the Constitution?

Why is voting important?

What's the big deal?

You have a lot of questions, my son. The answers are right here in Philadelphia. I will show you.



Later that day...

Okay, Rudy. Let's get you some answers. But first, we must take a little trip. Follow me.



Step into my time machine!



Welcome to Philadelphia. The date is September 17, 1787. Let's watch what's going on.



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