

American Government and Politics: A Christian Worldview
Foreign Meddling/Sedition Act Children's Story (25–30 minutes)

(TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS)

Purpose

Students rewrite the principle of either (a) the foolishness and dangers of foreign interventionism or (b) the illegality and illegitimacy of the Sedition Act into a short children's story that communicates the concept.

Instructions

1. Form groups of 2–3 students (2 minutes).

Assign roles within each group:

- Writer – drafts the story
- Idea Generator – helps design the scenario
- Moral Checker – ensures the principle is clear

If group of 2:

- Writer
- Concept & Moral Checker

2. Hand out the assignment and read it together.

Groups may choose one format:

- Picture Book (6 short “pages”)
- Animal Fable
- Nursery Rhyme (8 or 12 rhyming lines)

Limit length to keep things manageable:

- No more than 12 sentences (story formats)
- 8 or 12 lines (nursery rhyme format)

3. Work Time: 20–25 minutes.

BE SURE TO TELL STUDENTS TWO THINGS:

1. You're going to finish this by the end of class.
2. You're going to read these in class tomorrow, so **bring yours with you to class!**

American Government and Politics: A Christian Worldview

Foreign Meddling/Sedition Act Children's Story

Your group must explain either one of these concepts to a six-year-old:

1. Meddling in the affairs of foreign nations is dangerous, leads to bigger and more powerful government, and is incompatible with the views of nearly all of America's founders.
2. The Sedition Act unconstitutionally (illegally) violated the First Amendment by making it illegal to print or say anything "false, scandalous, and malicious" against the U.S. Congress or President.

Choose ONE format:

- ☐ Picture Book (6 short "pages" and **no more than 12 sentences**; illustrations aren't needed)
- ☐ Animal Fable (**no more than 12 sentences**)
- ☐ Nursery Rhyme (8 or 12 rhyming lines—no more, no less; choose one or the other)

Your Story MUST Include:

1. An overall picture of either of the above concepts (foreign interventionism, the Sedition Act)
2. An example or examples of what the concept involved
3. The opposing point of view
4. A clear moral

Keep it simple! (A first-grader should be able to understand it.)

Have fun! It's fine to use humor to make your point.

Story Planning Sheet (Use the Back of This Page to Write the Story/Fable/Nursery Rhyme):

1. What is the overall concept you want to make clear?
2. List one or a few examples of what the concept involves.
3. What is the opposing point of view?
4. What is the clear moral to the story?