Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

GUIDED READING ACTIVITY 3-1

The Nation's First Governments

Reading Tip

Use self-adhesive notes to flag main ideas, important events, or areas in the text that you may need to reread for better understanding.

Directions: Write an answer to each question in the space provided. Use the information in your textbook to answer the questions.

1. **Defining** What is a constitution?

_____

2. **Listing** What three parts did each new state government have?

_____

3. **Explaining** Why did most state constitutions include a bill of rights?

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4. **Stating** Under the Articles of Confederation, what two important powers did the states refuse to grant to Congress?

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5. **Listing** What were the three main achievements of the Northwest Ordinance?

_____

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6. **Identifying** What were the two weaknesses of the government under the Articles of Confederation?

_____

_____

7. **Specifying** What was the main problem that the national and state governments faced after the United States won the Revolutionary War?

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