



# **FEDERALISTS AND ANTI-FEDERALISTS**

---

## **Federalists and Anti-Federalists**

**Once the Constitution was written it had to go to the 13 states for their approval. People would then vote for or against making the Constitution the new law of the land.**

**FEDERALISM – a system of government in which there is a strong central government but power is shared between the states and the national government.**

**Two groups of belief developed:**

**Federalists – believed in a strong central government and wanted the Constitution to pass just as it was.**

**Anti-Federalists - did NOT want the constitution to pass without a Bill of Rights included.**

**Federalists** - included lawyers and businessmen

- 1. Supported taking some powers from the states and giving them to the national government.**
- 2. Wanted to divide powers among the different branches of government.**
- 3. Wanted a single person to lead the executive branch.**
- 4. Believed in a loose interpretation of the Constitution.**
- 5. Wanted a national bank.**
- 6. The Federalist Papers – a series of essays which supported the Federalists viewpoint (wanted the Constitution to pass as is) were written by such men as James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay.**





**Anti-Federalists** - included farmers, laborers, and some politicians

1. **Wanted the states to keep the most important powers.**
2. **Wanted the legislative branch to have more power than the executive branch.**
3. **Feared a single person in the executive branch might become a king or tyrant.**
4. **Believed in a strict interpretation of the Constitution. If it doesn't say it you can't do it.**
5. **Did not want a national bank because it didn't say they could create one in the Constitution.**
6. **Anti-Federalist Papers: Written by people like Thomas Jefferson and James Madison. Discussed their belief a Bill of Rights needed to be added to the Constitution to protect people's rights.**