

# The Federalist Era

## TOPIC SUMMARY

The new government established by George Washington’s administration struggled to keep peace at home and to avoid war abroad. Some early challenges included serious financial problems and the Whiskey Rebellion. By the election of 1796, two distinct political parties with different views about the role of the national government had formed—the Federalists and the Democratic-Republicans. Federalists promoted a strong federal government, and Democratic-Republicans wanted to limit the federal government’s power.



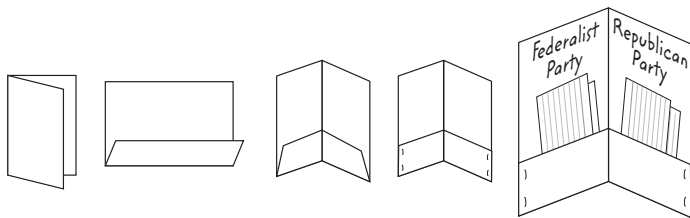
**Organizing Information** This foldable will organize what students learn about early political parties.

**Step 1** Fold a piece of 11" x 17" paper in half.

**Step 2** Fold the bottom edge up two inches. Glue the outer edges of the flap to create pockets.

**Step 3** Label each side as shown. Use the pockets to hold index cards or quarter sheets of paper.

**Reading and Writing** List leaders and key ideas for the Federalist and Republican Parties.



## TOPIC ACTIVITY IDEAS

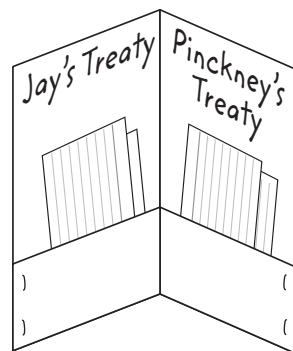
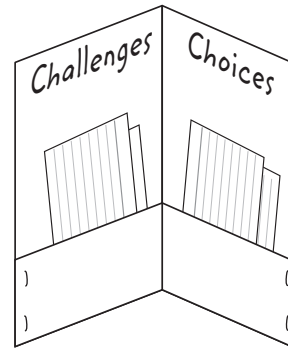
### Interviewing

Have students create the Study Foldable above and label it as shown. Then have them list leaders and ideas of the Federalist and Republican parties. Encourage them to include other pertinent facts as well.

Have students use the information in their Foldables to write questions for an interview with a prominent person from each political party. Tell students to consider questions about how the parties began, what each party stands for, and how each party views the Constitution. Then organize the class into pairs for mock interviews.

• **IDENTIFYING CENTRAL ISSUES**

• Students can use their textbooks, the Internet, and the library to research the presidency of George Washington. Have students label their Foldables as shown in the model to the right. Ask students to research the challenges Washington faced and the choices he made about the nation's new government. Students can record their findings on cards or quarter sheets of paper.



• **DIFFERENTIATING**

• Students can use the Foldable as shown to the left to gather and store information on both treaties. Have students gather dates, names of people involved, countries involved, why the treaty was needed, and what the treaty accomplished. Organize students into small groups, assign one of the treaties to each group, and ask them to write a newspaper cover story about the treaties.

**Student Study Tip**

To help students grasp the main ideas, have them create a word web as they read the lessons. Direct students to write the title as the center of the web. Tell students to include important ideas in ovals around the center.