### The Iroquois Confederacy

**Unit:** United States History  
**Theme:** Revolutionary War Constitution  
**Topic:** Native American Perspective  
**Level:** ESL 7/8 and/or ABE, Reading Levels 6-9  

**Length of Session:** 70 minutes

**Objective:** To list the Native American contributions to the formation of the United States government.

**EFF Standards:**  
- Read with Understanding  
- Speak so others can understand  
- Listen actively  
- Observe critically  
- Cooperate with others

**Language Arts Standards:**  
- Read with Understanding: Speak so others can understand. Listen actively. Observe critically, and cooperate with others  
- Understand how the Constitution embodies the purpose, values and principles of democracy

**Materials:**  
- Video from 500 Nations Series: Reading on the Iroquois Nation  
- Picture of "Join or Die" cartoon  
- Pictures of Native American Wampum Belt

---

**Evaluation**

**WARM-UP/REVIEW**  
- 10 minutes  
- Silently study handout of Native American Wampum Belt and Ben Franklin's cartoon, Join or Die  
- Turn to your neighbor and describe in detail what you see in each picture  
- Finish the following sentences on paper: One way that the pictures are similar is... One way that the pictures are different is...  
- Pictures of "Native American Wampum Belt"  
- Picture of "Join or Die" Cartoon

**PRESENTATION**  
- 5 minutes  
- Remind students about the War for Independence. Explain that today's reading is the story of how Ben Franklin, a revolutionary and supporter of the War for Independence, became inspired by the example of Iroquois solidarity and political union.

**Reflections on readings**

---

**Through**

**Evaluation**

**PRESENTATION**

**EVALUATION**
GUIDED PRACTICE
Part One
(15 minutes)
• Silent, individual reading of *The Iroquois Confederacy: the Raw Material of the Revolution and the Roots of Our Constitution*
• Answers questions on the reading. Share your answers with a partner and compose a unified answer to present to the class.

Part Two
(40 min)
• Video-500 Nations Series: *Cauldron of War, A Jack Leustig Film, 1994*

BEYOND

CLOSE RE:

Reflect in Journals:
I was surprised that…
I liked the way the film presented….
I was surprised that…
PROJECT: Work together

SCANS:
Foundation Skills: Writing

Kate Gougoutas, John Adams