

## STEPS TOWARD SELF-GOVERNMENT

**Democracy      Self-Government      Representative Government**

Democracy, self-government and representative government have about the same meaning. What is the meaning?

The United States and many other countries today have a democratic form of government. It took a long time for democracy to become a popular form of government. Below are some events in history which were steps toward the democracy we enjoy today in our country. Read them, research them and fill in the blanks.

### **The Magna Carta**

The Magna Carta was signed in the country of \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_ years ago. It was an agreement that the \_\_\_\_\_ couldn't do just any ol' thing he wanted. He signed the Magna Carta which said that the people he ruled had some \_\_\_\_\_ too.

### **The Mayflower Compact**

This document was signed upon the arrival of the Pilgrims in America. The Mayflower compact was an agreement they signed saying that they would make "such \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ laws...as shall be thought most proper and convenient for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_".

### **The House of Burgesses**

The House of Burgesses was the first \_\_\_\_\_ in America. It was the name of the assembly of colonists who had been elected to make laws for the colony of \_\_\_\_\_. They began their meetings in the year \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Conclusions**

What is the importance of the Magna Carta, Mayflower Compact and House of Burgesses? (Re-read the first paragraph for hints.)