Electoral College Map Activity

Introduction: In the election of 1800, the two Revolutionary War patriots ran for president held very different views for the future of the country. Because both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams were very popular men, the race was close.

Directions:
1. Below is an outline map for the election of 1800. Using the following information, color the map to identify which states Democratic-Republican candidate Thomas Jefferson won and which states Federalist candidate John Adams won. Be sure to color the map key with the colors you selected for the two parties. [Please note: 1) three states split their votes between the two candidates, so be sure to use two colors for those states, and 2) in the split states, the letter “F” indicates Federalist votes and “DR” indicates Democratic-Republican votes.]
   - Connecticut – Adams
   - Delaware – Adams
   - Georgia – Jefferson
   - Kentucky – Jefferson
   - Maryland – split vote
   - Rhode Island - Adams
   - North Carolina – split vote
   - New Hampshire – Adams
   - New Jersey – Adams
   - New York – Jefferson
   - Pennsylvania – split vote
   - South Carolina – Jefferson
   - Tennessee – Jefferson
   - Vermont – Adams
   - Virginia – Jefferson
   - Massachusetts – Adams

2. Add up the number of electoral votes for each candidate and place the totals on the pie chart to the right of the map. Color the two sections of the pie chart the same colors you used for the political parties on the map.

Electoral Votes 1800

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3. With your teacher, review the chart below, which describes the two political parties in the election of 1800.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federalists</th>
<th>Democratic-Republicans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="John Adams" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Thomas Jefferson" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Plan for Running the Government**

- Favored a strong national government
- Favored limiting the power of the states
- Believed the common people were incapable of governing themselves
- Wanted to develop industry nationally
- Against too much individual freedom

- Favored a weak national government
- Supported states’ rights
- Believed the common people were capable of governing themselves. Wanted more people involved in government.
- Favored farmers and small business
- Favored freedom of speech and the press

**Portions of Society who Supported the Candidates**

- Bankers, manufacturers, merchants
- Small farmers, settlers, plantations owners, artists, shopkeepers

**Regions of Support**

- New England and Mid-Atlantic states
- Southern and Western states

**Positions on Relations with Foreign Countries**

- Encouraged good relations and trade with Great Britain. Distrusted France, which had just experienced a revolution.
- Encouraged good relations and trade with France. Distrusted Great Britain who had fought the U.S. to prevent their independence.
4. Discussion Questions—Using your completed election of 1800 electoral votes map and the information provided in the chart of the political parties, discuss the following questions:

- Which regions voted mostly for the Federalists? What members of society generally supported the Federalists?
- Which regions voted mostly for the Democratic-Republicans? What members of society generally supported the Democratic-Republicans?
- Looking at your map above, what are the three new states and four new territories established since the original thirteen colonies?
- Look at the section of the chart above that explains which portions of society supported the political candidates. How does the addition of the new states show a stronger support for the Democratic-Republicans over the Federalists?
- In 1800, the United States was a very young country that was weaker than nearly all European countries. Why do you think the Federalists believed that there should be less democracy in the country? Why do you think they believed that the government should favor the wealthy bankers and merchants?
- In 1800, the United States was also a struggling democracy, trying to preserve the rights of its citizens. Why do you think the Democratic-Republicans believed that there should be more democracy in the country? Why do you think they believed that the government should favor the farmers and common people?
- Considering these views, why do you think many people believed this presidential election was very important?

5. Essay Question: Was the election of 1800 important? Explain your answer in an essay that covers the different views of the two candidates, the direction each party wanted to take the country, the members of society that generally supported each party, and your thoughts on why the election of 1800 was important.
Electoral College Votes, 1800