**School House Rock**

**Preamble Lyrics**

Hey, do you know about the U.S.A.?  
Do you know about the government?  
Can you tell me about the Constitution?  
Hey, learn about the U.S.A.

In 1787 I'm told  
Our founding fathers did agree  
To write a list of principles  
For keepin' people free.

The U.S.A. was just startin' out.  
A whole brand-new country.  
And so our people spelled it out  
The things that we should be.

**And they put those principles down on paper and called it the Constitution, and it's been helping us run our country ever since then. The first part of the Constitution is called the preamble and tells what those founding fathers set out to do.**

We the people,  
In order to form a more perfect union,  
Establish justice, insure domestic tranquility,  
Provide for the common defense,  
Promote the general welfare and  
Secure the blessings of liberty  
To ourselves and our posterity  
Do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

(OVER)

In 1787 I'm told  
Our founding fathers all sat down  
And wrote a list of principles  
That's known the world around.

The U.S.A. was just starting out  
A whole brand-new country.  
And so our people spelled it out  
They wanted a land of liberty.

**And the Preamble goes like this:**

We the people,  
In order to form a more perfect union,  
Establish justice, insure domestic tranquility,  
Provide for the common defense,  
Promote the general welfare and  
Secure the blessings of liberty  
To ourselves and our posterity  
Do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

For the United States of America...

**Meaning of the words**

Principles: main beliefs

founding fathers: Our country’s first leaders who wrote the constitution

Establish justice: *Put into place fairness*

insure domestic tranquility: *Make sure that there is peace here on our homeland.*  
Provide for the common defense: supply a military to protect US citizens  
Promote the general welfare and: Support the basic needs of citizens  
Secure the blessings of liberty: Protect the citizens freedom  
To ourselves and our posterity: of our current citizens and future generations.  
Do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America. Do order and put into place this structure of government for our country.