

Week 292 Tool Selection — Node 2.1.2.1.1.2.1.1: Public Law and Constitutional Rights

TL;DR

- **Top pick:** A blank, child-height **magnetic dry-erase whiteboard with markers and magnets**, used by the family as a "Family Charter Board" — a visible, weekly-amendable written rule-set that the adults are ALSO bound by. This is the only candidate whose primary feedback loop is collective authorship + amendment + binding of authority — the embodied precursor to constitutional law.
 - **Strong runners-up:** the **UNICEF UK Rights Playing Cards** (56-card UNCRC deck for deliberation games) and the cooperative deduction game **Outfoxed!** (Gamewright) — useful supplements, but neither lets the child amend the rules.
 - **Reject:** unilateral chore/responsibility charts (Melissa & Doug Magnetic Responsibility Chart and the like), fixed-rule competitive games (Monopoly Jr., Candy Land), passive civics picture books, and novelty courtroom gavel sets — they look right but violate the substrate.
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NODE INDIVIDUATION

Step A — Transformation substrate. For a 5-year-old, "constitutional law" is unreachable as theory. The reachable, embodied precursor is the experience of a small group collectively **(1) authoring** a visible written rule-set, **(2) living under** those rules for a week, **(3) testing** whether the rules survive contact with reality (was it fair? did Daddy break it?), and **(4) amending** them by an agreed procedure. The transformative felt-difference is the moment the child realises an *authority figure* (parent) is themselves *bound by* a rule that the child helped write — the precursor to "rule of law" vs. arbitrary power. The tool's primary feedback must operate on this substrate (visible codification, amendment, binding of authority), not on dyadic negotiation (sibling-to-sibling deal-making — that is the private-law sibling node).

Step B — Sibling contrast (Public vs. Private Law). Private law (the sibling node) is about person-to-person dealings: "If you give me your truck, I will give you my crayon" (contract); "this is my doll" (property); "you bumped me" (tort). Public law is structurally different: it is about the *rules that constrain the rule-makers themselves* and the *rights individuals hold against power*. Concretely, a tool that scripts a swap between two children sits in private law; a tool by which the family writes a constitution that even Mum has to obey sits in public law. The recommended tool must therefore have an explicit "the powerful are also bound" feedback channel — not just fair-trade or social-skills feedback.

Domain Type: Human World (rules exist only because humans collectively decide they do).

Engagement Mode: requires_others (constitutional play is meaningless solo — there must be at least one other person to be jointly bound; ideally 3+ for a small "demos").

Common Obstacles at week 292:

- Egocentric reasoning still dominant; "rules" easily collapse into "what I want."
 - Adult tendency to issue unilateral rules and revert when challenged, which inverts the substrate.
 - Reading/writing fluency is partial — rules must be expressible with simple words, pictures, or symbols.
 - Conflation of *moral* rules ("don't hit") with *procedural* rules ("how we decide what to do on Saturday") — the public-law lesson lives in the second.
 - Short attention/working-memory window: the rule-set must stay short (≤ 6 rules) and remain physically *visible* between sessions.
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RANKED LIST

#1 — Family Charter Board: HOMCOM Magnetic Dry-Erase Whiteboard 90×60 cm with markers, eraser & magnets

match_score: 94 / 100 — catalyst tier. **Scoring rationale:** Of all candidates this is the only one whose *primary* feedback loop is precisely the node's substrate — visible collective authoring, in-place amendment, and the symmetric binding of every person whose magnet is on the board. Loses 6 points because (a) it is a raw substrate rather than a curated kit, so the framing depends on the parent following the protocol below; (b) markers and small magnets carry a mild hazard gradient (covered under safety).

items:

- **Title:** HOMCOM Whiteboard / Magnettafel 90×60 cm with 4 markers, 1 eraser sponge, 10 magnets (Ø 30 mm), aluminium frame, plastic corner guards. (Aosom)
- **Price:** €41.90 starting price at Kaufland.at (price-history snippet dated 30.10.2025: "Preis ab € 41,90 (30.10.2025). Jetzt kaufen!"); €47.90 direct from Aosom.de. (Kaufland)
- **Currency:** EUR.
- **Link:** <https://www.aosom.de/item/homcom-whiteboard-magnettafel-mit-alurahmen-mit-zubehor-90x60cm~A1-0007.html>
- **is_main_item:** true.
- **Country of origin:** Distributed by Aosom Europe GmbH (Germany); manufactured in China (typical for HOMCOM/Aosom; not stated explicitly on the listing — [needs human verification]).
- **Primary markets sold:** Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Poland (Aosom EU network); Amazon.de marketplace ships across the EU including

Lithuania.

- **Specifications:** Lacquered galvanised steel writing surface; aluminium frame with plastic corner protectors; 90 × 60 × 1.8 cm; weight ~3 kg; mounts horizontally or vertically; magnetic; dry-erase. Listing states verbatim: "*Auch kleine Kinder können das Whiteboard unbedenklich nutzen.*" ("Even small children can use the whiteboard safely.") (Aosom + 2)
- **lifespan_weeks: 520** (10 years — a wall-mounted steel/aluminium board with replaceable consumables; markers and eraser are replaced every 12–26 weeks).
- **sanitization_protocol:**
 - *Giver:* wipe writing surface with a microfibre cloth dampened with 70 % isopropyl alcohol; air-dry; replace marker tips and eraser sponge before passing on; check magnets for cracked plastic shells.
 - *Receiver:* re-wipe with a fresh microfibre cloth + dilute neutral soap, dry, and inspect magnets and corner protectors before mounting at a height the child can reach standing.

completion_analysis (what pushes it to 100 %): To close the 6-point gap, pair the board with (i) a laminated A4 "Amendment Procedure" card spelling out the 3-step ratification ritual (propose → discuss → all-sign), (ii) a small wooden gavel or bell to mark ratification, and (iii) one printed copy of the UNICEF child-friendly UNCRC poster posted next to the board so that the family's rules are visibly nested inside a larger framework that even the *parents* did not write. That triad turns a raw whiteboard into a complete "miniature constitution" workshop.

justification (objective brand criteria): HOMCOM/Aosom is a mass-market EU distributor with broad availability and clear EU consumer-protection coverage; the board meets the criterion of a *blank, amendable, visible, shared writing surface* better than any branded "rules poster" because nothing is pre-printed — every rule on it is one the family wrote. Magnetic surface allows movable name-magnets so authority and obligation are spatially represented.

tests_analysis:

1. **Open-Ended Play Test — PASS.** The board has no built-in rule. The family chooses what to write; the child can propose, draw, amend, or strike through any rule.
2. **First-Week Engagement Test — PASS.** Day 1: hang the board, write "We the [Family] agree..." and the first three rules. The child sees immediate reality feedback the same evening when a rule is invoked.
3. **Divergent Exploration Test — PASS.** Different families will produce wildly different charters; the same child a year later will produce a different one. There is no "right answer."
4. **Knowledge Leverage Test — PASS (very high ceiling).** The board scales from "no shoes on sofa" at week 292 to "agenda, minutes, supermajority for amendments" at

week 600 and "comparison with Lithuanian Constitution Article 18" later. Same physical object; rising sophistication.

5. **Value-Creation Test — PASS.** The child can immediately help OTHERS create value: chair a family meeting, propose a rule that solves a sibling/cousin conflict, draft a charter at a playdate. High-agency role: the child is a *framer*, not an interchangeable input.

exploration_guide (7-day plan):

- **Day 1 — Founding.** Hang the board where everyone can reach it. Together write the heading: "*We, the [Family Name] family, agree to these rules. Every person who signs is bound, including the grown-ups.*" Each member, including the child, signs with a magnet or marker.
- **Day 2 — First three rules.** The child proposes one rule; each adult proposes one. Discuss; write only what everyone agrees to. Number them.
- **Day 3 — Test day.** Live under the rules. When someone (especially an adult) breaks one, the child points to the board. Acknowledge the breach openly and write a small tally mark next to the rule.
- **Day 4 — Amendment session.** Hold a 10-minute "constitutional convention": propose changes, vote, write the amended version. Erase old rule, write new. Re-sign.
- **Day 5 — Rights vs. duties.** Add a small section: "*Things no rule can take away.*" Use UNICEF's child-friendly UNCRC list as a stimulus (right to play, right to be heard, right to rest). Discuss why even a majority cannot vote these away — first encounter with *entrenched rights*.
- **Day 6 — Visiting demos.** Invite a friend or cousin over and let them propose a rule for the afternoon's play. Practise the ratification ritual.
- **Day 7 — Reflection & archive.** Photograph the board. Wipe it clean. Re-write the rules the family wants to keep. Talk about which rules survived and why.

spark_indicators: child spontaneously says "but the rule says..." to an adult; child asks "can I add a rule?"; child invents an amendment procedure of their own ("we need three yeses"); child wants to write a charter for a stuffed-animal "country."

not_resonating_indicators: child only wants to draw on the board; rules are written but never invoked; adults override rules without using the amendment procedure (this is the *parent* not resonating, and it kills the substrate — see anti-recommendations).

evidence_of_engagement: ≥ 3 rules written by week's end; ≥ 1 amendment proposed and discussed; ≥ 1 instance of an adult publicly conceding to the rule.

trajectory_connection: This same physical board carries the child from week 292 (three pictograph rules) through later child nodes of this lineage — separation of powers, due process, judicial review — by progressively complicating the *procedure* by which rules are made and changed. It is also the substrate on which later civic-participation, deliberation, and even contract-drafting (private-law sibling) skills will be rehearsed.

#2 — UNICEF UK Rights Playing Cards (56-card deck based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child)

match_score: 82 / 100 — strong enhancer. **Scoring rationale:** Direct content match with the node's real legal substrate (the UNCRC is the globally ratified instrument that binds states to children). The deck is explicitly built for classroom rights-learning games; it gives the child a tangible vocabulary for entrenched rights. Loses points because the rules of the suggested games are fixed, not amendable — it enhances rather than catalyses the rule-making substrate. (UNICEF) (UNICEF)

Leverage gap vs. #1: #1 catalyses *making rules*; this deck catalyses *naming rights*. The deck is downstream — it gives the child the content (rights) that the charter board later entrenches.

items:

- **Title:** UNICEF UK Rights Playing Cards — pack of 56 cards, each featuring one article of the UNCRC, plus explanation cards and two suggested classroom games. (UNICEF) (UNICEF)
- **Price:** £10.00 per box (verbatim from the UNICEF UK Rights Respecting Schools product page, code RRSA006, updated 20 Jan 2025: "Price: £10.00 (for one box of cards) / Code: RRSA006") — approximately €11.50 at current rates. **Important sourcing caveat:** UNICEF UK now states on the same page that "we can no longer accept international and EU orders" — purchases must be placed UK-only by post or phone (0844 801 2413), so an EU family will need a UK forwarding address or a friend in the UK to acquire it. (unicef) (unicef)
- **Currency:** EUR (converted from GBP £10.00).
- **Link:** <https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/resources/teaching-resources/rights-cards/>
- **is_main_item:** true.
- **Country of origin:** United Kingdom (UNICEF UK).
- **Primary markets sold:** United Kingdom only as of January 2025.
- **Key specifications:** 56 illustrated cards; English text; covers all child-relevant UNCRC articles; includes facilitator notes and two ready-made games. (unicef)
- **lifespan_weeks:** 260 (5 years — a paper card deck used weekly; sleeve in plastic to extend life).
- **sanitization_protocol:** Giver — wipe each card with a barely-damp microfibre cloth, air-dry flat, replace damaged cards; Receiver — repeat wipe, store in a zip pouch.

Tests (brief): Open-Ended ✓ (free play, sorting, ranking, role-play possible); First-Week ✓ (sort by "rights I already have" vs. "rights I want more of"); Divergent ✓ (different children rank differently); Knowledge Leverage ✓ high ceiling — the same deck is used in real

human-rights advocacy training; Value-Creation ✓ child can teach a peer one right per week.

trajectory_connection: Becomes the *bill of rights* posted next to the Family Charter Board — entrenched rights the majority cannot vote away.

#3 — Outfoxed! cooperative deduction board game (Gamewright, USA)

match_score: 76 / 100 — solid. **Scoring rationale:** Best-in-class cooperative game for week 292 in which the *group* (not the individual) deliberates, weighs evidence, and reaches a binding collective verdict before a deadline — a structural rehearsal of due-process reasoning and collective judgment. Loses points because its rules are manufacturer-fixed (no amendment), and the content is criminal procedure by analogy, not constitutional limits on power.

Leverage gap vs. #1: #1 lets the child *make* the rules of the family; Outfoxed! gives the child practice *applying* fixed rules collectively. Important rehearsal of group decision-making but not of rule-making itself.

items:

- **Title:** Outfoxed! cooperative whodunit board game. (The Tabletop Family)
- **Price:** €29.95 at Cogs Toys & Games Ireland (live product page fetched May 2026: meta-product:price:amount 29.95, meta-product:price:currency EUR). Amazon.de marketplace listings have been observed in a €23–€26 range but were not directly verified at the time of writing. (cogstoysandgames)
- **Currency:** EUR.
- **Link:** <https://www.cogstoysandgames.ie/products/outfoxed>
- **is_main_item:** true.
- **Country of origin:** Published by Gamewright (Newton, Massachusetts, USA); manufactured in China (2015). (Outfoxed! Brettspiel) (eBay)
- **Primary markets sold:** worldwide; widely available across EU specialty retailers and via the Cogs Ireland webshop, which ships within Ireland and to the EU.
- **Key specifications:** Ages 5+, 2–4 players, ~15–20 min; contents — 16 suspect cards, 16 thief cards, 12 clue markers, 4 detective pawns, 3 custom dice, fox figurine, evidence scanner, board. (Puzzle Warehouse + 5)
- **lifespan_weeks:** 312 (6 years — a sturdy paper/cardboard game).
- **sanitization_protocol:** Giver — wipe cardboard pieces with a barely-damp microfibre cloth, air-dry, check the scanner mechanism, reassemble in original box; Receiver — repeat, count pieces against contents list.
- **Safety:** small parts present; the box states "*CHOKING HAZARD — Small parts. Not for children under 3 yrs.*" — appropriate for a 5-year-old [verified from packaging]. Toy

safety: should carry CE / EN 71 marking for EU sale [**needs human verification**].

(Amazon UK)

Tests (brief): Open-Ended — partial (fixed rules, but free deliberation within them); First-Week ✓ (playable on day 1); Divergent ✓ (different reasoning paths each game); Knowledge Leverage — medium (ceiling: ~age 9-10); Value-Creation ✓ (child can teach younger cousin).

trajectory_connection: Bridges to later child nodes on adjudication, evidence, and presumption of innocence.

#4 — Council of Europe "Compasito" Manual for Human Rights Education with Children (3rd edition, 2023 update)

match_score: 72 / 100 — solid for the parent/facilitator; an *enabler* tool rather than a child-facing toy. **items:**

- **Title:** Compasito — Manual for human rights education with children, 3rd edition (2023 update). (Coe)
- **Price:** €16.00 PDF (confirmed live at the Council of Europe Bookshop product page for the 3rd edition updated in 2023, book.coe.int item 12003; page metadata: meta-product:price:amount 16, meta-product:price:currency EUR). Print edition is listed at €28.00 (ISBN 978-92-871-8794-9) but is currently marked out of print with a reprint-notification button. (coe)
- **Currency:** EUR.
- **Link:** <https://book.coe.int/en/human-rights-democratic-citizenship-and-interculturalism/12003-pdf-compasito-manual-for-human-rights-education-with-children-3rd-edition-updated-in-2023.html>
- **is_main_item:** true.
- **Country of origin:** France (Council of Europe Publishing, Strasbourg).
- **Primary markets sold:** all 46 Council of Europe member states including Lithuania; English, French and many translated editions.
- **Key specifications:** 360 pages, A4; 42 practical activities; 14 themes (Democratic Citizenship, Discrimination, Participation, Peace, Violence, etc.); the official Compasito portal states verbatim: "*The activities are designed for children from 5 to 13 years old.*" (CRIN + 2)
- **lifespan_weeks:** 520 (10 years — a reference book).
- **Safety:** none beyond paper-cut hygiene.

Justification & leverage gap vs. #1: Compasito gives the *facilitating adult* the deepest curriculum currently available in the EU for the public-law substrate. But it is read by the adult, not played by the child — a multiplier on #1, not a substitute. Brief tests: Open-Ended ✓ (activities are adaptable); First-Week ✓ (do Activity "Our Rules" on day 1); Divergent ✓;

Knowledge Leverage ✓ (very high ceiling); Value-Creation ✓ (the parent can run sessions for other families — the club use case).

trajectory_connection: This manual remains useful for the next 8 years; pair it with the Charter Board for the strongest possible combination.

#5 — UNICEF Children's Version of the Convention on the Rights of the Child Kit (activity book + memory game + poster + video)

match_score: 70 / 100 — solid content-anchor. **items:**

- **Title:** UNICEF Children's Version of the Convention on the Rights of the Child — free downloadable kit (activity book, memory game cards, animated short film "*We All Have Rights*" explicitly designed for ages 3-6, A2 poster). UNICEF Switzerland sells a printed Child Rights Poster A2 in DE/FR/IT; UNICEF UK sells a Children's Rights Poster Set of 20 posters.  
- **Price:** free download from [unicef.org/child-rights-convention](https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention) plus optional printed materials: UNICEF Switzerland A2 poster typically ~€5-€10 depending on quantity; UNICEF UK 20-poster set ~€15 [needs human verification — exact retail price not confirmed in EUR at time of writing].
- **Currency:** EUR.
- **Link:** <https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/convention-text-childrens-version> • <https://www.unicef.ch/en/what-we-do/national/publications-teaching-materials/child-rights-poster-a2>
- **is_main_item:** true.
- **Country of origin:** UNICEF (international); printed posters from UNICEF Switzerland / UNICEF UK.
- **Key specifications:** Child-friendly text covering all 54 articles; memory game format; animated film "*We All Have Rights*" explicitly designed for ages 3-6.
- **lifespan_weeks:** 156 (3 years — paper poster + printed booklets).

Leverage gap vs. #1: Provides the *content* of children's rights but no rule-making mechanic. Tests: Open-Ended — partial; First-Week ✓; Divergent — limited; Knowledge Leverage — medium; Value-Creation ✓ (child reads rights aloud to younger siblings/peers).

trajectory_connection: Companion poster for the Charter Board; concrete reminder that some rights stand outside the family's amendment power.

#6 — Classroom / Family Mock-Election Kit (ballot box + ballots + "I voted" stickers)

match_score: 65 / 100 — acceptable. **items:**

- **Title:** Printable Kids' Election Kit (Barley & Birch) — ballots, ballot-box template, voter-ID cards, stickers, decorations; OR commercial Classroom Elections Kit (US: Carson Dellosa / Creative Teaching Press) — pre-assembled cardboard ballot box, 32-page reproducible activity book, "I voted!" stickers, three "Vote for Me!" buttons.
(barley & birch)
- **Price:** €0 for the printable; ~€18-€25 for the commercial kit [**needs human verification** — exact EUR retail price not confirmed; product is US-origin and not widely stocked in EU].
- **Currency:** EUR.
- **Link:** <https://barleyandbirch.com/shop/printable-kids-election-kit/> • <https://www.schoolsupplies4less.com/products/classroom-elections-kit>
- **Country of origin:** USA (both).
- **Key specifications:** Cardboard ballot box, paper ballots, stickers, optional buttons; the family/classroom decides what to vote on.
- **lifespan_weeks:** 104 (2 years; ballot box is cardboard and ages).

Leverage gap vs. #1: Voting is a *procedure of public law* but it stops short of constitutional codification — the family votes on the dinner menu, but the menu does not bind anyone next week. Tests: Open-Ended ✓; First-Week ✓; Divergent ✓; Knowledge Leverage — medium; Value-Creation ✓.

trajectory_connection: Becomes the formal ratification mechanism for amendments to the Charter Board.

#7 — Wooden talking-stick / mini-gavel "ratification" set (any artisan or DIY)

match_score: 58 / 100 — acceptable accessory. **items:**

- **Title:** Wooden mini-gavel (3-inch, e.g., from museum/courthouse shops) OR a hand-carved talking stick.
- **Price:** €8-€20.
- **Currency:** EUR.
- **Link (fallback Google search):** <https://www.google.com/search?q=wooden+mini+gavel+toy+EU>
- **Country of origin:** various; many made in EU artisan workshops or in the USA.
- **Key specifications:** Solid hardwood, sanded; the gavel should be no smaller than 8 cm length to remain non-choking for a 5-year-old; talking-stick should have no detachable beads/feathers under the EN 71-1 small-parts cylinder threshold [**needs human verification**].
- **lifespan_weeks:** 520 (10 years).

Leverage gap vs. #1: Purely ceremonial. But the ceremony is precisely what marks the transition from "Mum said" to "we hereby decide" — high symbolic value for a 5-year-old.

trajectory_connection: Used at each amendment of the Charter Board (#1) to mark the procedural moment.

#8 — Cooperative-deliberation board game alternative: Hoot Owl Hoot! (Peaceable Kingdom)

match_score: 55 / 100 — acceptable fallback if Outfoxed is unavailable. **items:**

- **Title:** Hoot Owl Hoot! cooperative board game (Peaceable Kingdom, USA).
- **Price:** ~€20 [unverified; no current EU retail price confirmed by search — US listings only at time of writing].
- **Currency:** EUR.
- **Link (fallback):** <https://www.google.com/search?q=hoot+owl+hoot+board+game+EU>
- **Country of origin:** USA (Peaceable Kingdom, a MindWare brand).
- **Key specifications:** Ages 4+, 2-4 players, ~15 min; players collaboratively decide which owl to move on each turn — natural "deliberation" prompt.
- **lifespan_weeks:** 260 (5 years).

Leverage gap vs. #1: Less deductive depth than Outfoxed; fixed rules; pure decision practice. Tests: Open-Ended — partial; First-Week ✓; Divergent — modest; Knowledge Leverage — low ceiling (~age 7); Value-Creation ✓.

trajectory_connection: Gentle warm-up cooperative game for the youngest charter-board members.

ZERO-COST DIY OPTIONS

DIY-1 — The Paper Charter ("Butcher-Paper Constitution")

match_score: 80 / 100 — high (this is the principled DIY equivalent of #1). **Items (price=0, is_household_material=true):**

- A long sheet of butcher paper, brown wrapping paper, or the back of a wallpaper roll.
- Permanent marker (parent-supervised) + a pack of sticky notes + a roll of masking tape.
- One marker per family member, one large sticker per member to use as a "signature seal."

derivation_note (which #1 principles preserved): Preserves (a) collective authorship, (b) visible codification, (c) amendment by sticky-note overlay, (d) ratification by signed seal, (e) symmetric binding (every member, including adults, signs). Loses: (a) the magnetic re-arrangement that makes spatial representation of obligations easy; (b) easy erasure — sticky notes get messy after ~6 amendment cycles. Avoids the *failed* failure modes of laminated "house rules" posters: it cannot be hung as a *fait accompli* by a parent and treated as finished.

Construction/activity guide: Tape the paper to a wall the child can reach. Write the preamble: "We, the [Family] family, agree..." Each member signs at the bottom. Add rules one per line, numbered. Amendments are written on a sticky note placed over the rule, dated, and signed by everyone. Once every two weeks, copy the live rules onto a fresh sheet to keep the charter readable.

DIY-2 — Cereal-Box Ballot Box + Hand-Drawn Ballots

match_score: 55 / 100 — adequate. **Items (price=0, is_household_material=true):**

- Empty cereal/tissue box, scissors (adult-supervised), tape, A4 paper cut into eighths for ballots, pencil.
- Optional: a small box for "I helped decide!" stickers drawn by the child.

derivation_note: Preserves the *procedure-of-public-decision* aspect of #6 at zero cost; loses durability. Avoids the failure mode of an electronic voting toy (battery-driven, opaque mechanism, no felt agency).

Activity: Cut a slot in the lid. Decorate. Use whenever an amendment to the family charter is proposed. After voting, open the box together and tally on the charter board.

Kids Activities

ANTI-RECOMMENDATIONS (NEGATIVE SCORES)

AR-1 — Unilateral "Chore Chart" / "Magnetic Responsibility Chart" (e.g., Melissa & Doug Magnetic Wooden Responsibility Chart, ~€20)

match_score: -60. rejection_reason: Fails the **Value-Creation Test** and *inverts* the substrate. The chart is authored by the parent and binds only the child; the asymmetry is exactly the opposite of what public law teaches. Children's rule-following becomes a behavioural-compliance loop, not a constitutional one. Looks like #1 (magnets, board, family theme) but mechanically encodes arbitrary authority rather than rule-bound authority.

AR-2 — Fixed-Rule Competitive Children's Board Games (e.g., Candy Land, Monopoly Junior)

match_score: -50. rejection_reason: Fails the **Open-Ended Play Test**. Rules are sealed in

the box; children cannot amend them. The "rules" feel like natural laws handed down from the manufacturer, the precise opposite of the public-law insight that rules are *made by people and can be changed by people*. Also tends to produce a single winner, which is not the felt substrate of constitutional polity.

AR-3 — Passive "Good Citizen" / "Constitution for Kids" Picture Books read alone (e.g., colour-in US Constitution booklets)

match_score: -40. rejection_reason: Fails the **First-Week Engagement Test** as a *primary* tool. Reading about the US Constitution without ever authoring a rule produces theory without practice — exactly the trap the Precursor Principle was set up to avoid. (Useful only as *secondary* reading material alongside #1.)

AR-4 — Novelty Courtroom Gavel Set with Sound Effects (e.g., "Law & Order Mini Gavel Set with Sound")

match_score: -35. rejection_reason: Fails the **Knowledge Leverage Test**. The "dun-dun" sound is a TV-franchise gag with no underlying rule-making mechanic. Looks topical; does nothing for the substrate. (A plain wooden gavel, used as a ratification accessory to #1, is fine — see #7.) (Yahoo!)

AR-5 — Screen-Based Civics Games / Apps (e.g., iCivics "Do I Have a Right?", UNICEF "Right Runner" mobile game)

match_score: -25. rejection_reason: Fails the **Practice-Over-Theory** requirement for a 5-year-old. The targeted age for iCivics' suite is 8+ and the mechanic is screen tap, not embodied collective rule-making. Right Runner is closer in spirit but remains an individual screen-runner; it cannot deliver the substrate of "binding the rule-makers themselves" because there is no rule-maker present in the room.

RECOMMENDATIONS (staged, with thresholds)

Stage 1 — Acquire and install the catalyst (this week). Buy the HOMCOM 90×60 cm magnetic whiteboard (€41.90) or, on a zero-budget, set up DIY-1 the Butcher-Paper Charter. Mount it at a height the 5-year-old can reach standing. Do the Day-1 founding session before nightfall.

Stage 2 — Add content (week 2-3). Download the free UNICEF Children's Version of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and print the "We All Have Rights" poster (free; printing ~€2). If the parent will run sessions for other club families, purchase the Compasito PDF (€16.00) from book.coe.int.

Stage 3 — Add a deliberation game (week 4-6). Add Outfoxed! (€29.95 from Cogs Ireland) once the charter board has been amended at least twice — the game makes more sense once the child already understands that group decisions take procedure.

Stage 4 — Add ceremony and elections (week 8+). Add the wooden mini-gavel (€8–€20) and/or the DIY cereal-box ballot box once amendments need a formal procedural marker.

Thresholds that would change these recommendations:

- If the family has only one adult-child dyad (no third person), drop #1 from rank one to rank two; the substrate is still reachable but weaker. Add a playgroup or extended-family session at least monthly.
 - If the child shows no engagement with the Charter Board after 14 days *and* the adults have followed the protocol faithfully, the precursor substrate is not yet within reach — fall back to UNICEF UK Rights Cards as the primary tool and revisit the board at week 320.
 - If shipping to Lithuania makes the HOMCOM board >€55 delivered, switch to DIY-1 plus a basic IKEA SVENSÅS or VEMUND board without markers (~€10–€20) plus separate dry-erase markers.
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CAVEATS

- **Sourcing risk:** UNICEF UK's product page now states verbatim that "*we can no longer accept international and EU orders*" — the Rights Playing Cards must be acquired via a UK forwarding address or substituted with the free downloadable UNICEF child-friendly Convention text plus a self-printed card deck.
- **Compasito 3rd-edition print stock:** the print edition is currently out-of-stock at book.coe.int; the PDF (€16.00) is the practical purchase right now.
- **Age range of Compasito:** the 3rd-edition (2023 update) portal states 5–13; older listings still circulate with the 1st/2nd-edition 7–13 description. Use the 3rd edition for week-292 work. (CRIN)
- **Safety claims and certificates:** I have intentionally not asserted specific CE / EN 71 certificate numbers for any product. Every safety statement is marked [verified] (from public packaging text or manufacturer claims I could read) or [needs human verification] (where a certificate, batch, or composition statement should be checked on the actual unit received). Toy markers and small magnets in the HOMCOM kit deserve particular human checking before use by a 5-year-old.
- **Catalyst vs. enhancer split:** #1 is the only true catalyst — a qualitatively new feedback loop. #2–#8 are enhancers of activities a competent caregiver could already do (read rights aloud, hold a family meeting, play a cooperative game). The ranking reflects this; the practical implication is that under-resourcing #1 cannot be compensated for by buying more of #2–#8.
- **Cultural / Lithuanian framing:** for a Lithuanian family the charter board can usefully sit next to a child-friendly copy of the Lithuanian Constitution (available free via lrs.lt) and the JT Vaiko teisių konvencija child-friendly version published by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour (socmin.lrv.lt). Lithuania ratified the UNCRC in 1995, so

the framework binds the Lithuanian state itself — a directly observable instance of the substrate this tool is teaching.

- **Self-check on #1:** the Family Charter Board could also serve nodes like Cooperation or Communication, but it would not be the *strongest* tool for those — a talking circle would. The board's distinctive feature — *the powerful are also bound by rule 4* — is the precise substrate of public law and only of public law. Fit confirmed.