

CIVICS & GOVERNMENT

UNIT #1

The Purpose of Government

The Purpose of Government



Career Spotlight

Name: _____
Date: _____

Supreme Court Justice

Federal



an important part of the government. It is the highest court in the country.

interprets and protects the Constitution of the United States. Supreme Court justices are not under the law for their decisions.



Since the Supreme Court was established in the year 1790, there have been over one hundred justices (17 Chief Justices and 103 Associate Justices). On average, justices serve for 15 years.



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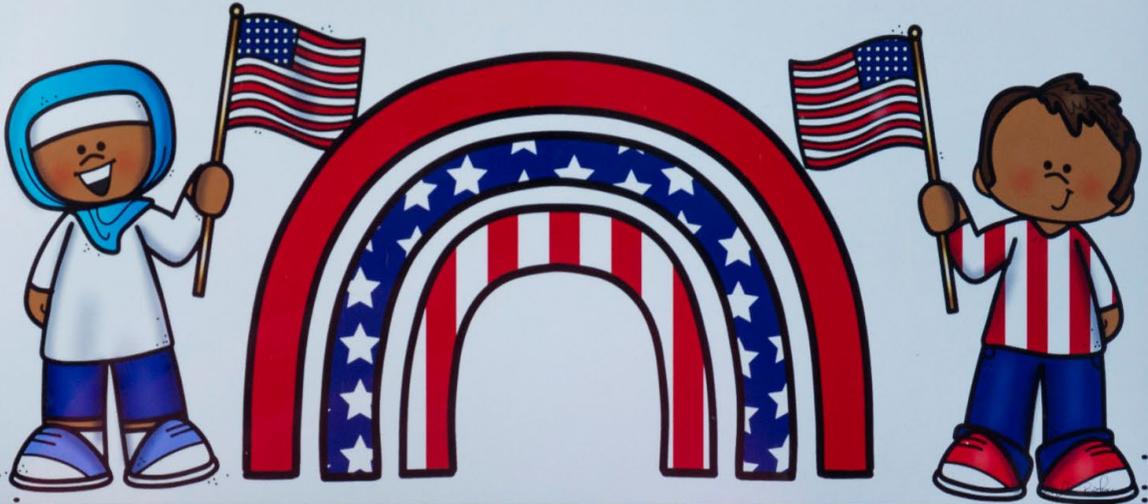


State



What is a Government?

A government is a group of people that rule a territory, according to the law. The territory may be a country, a state, or a region.

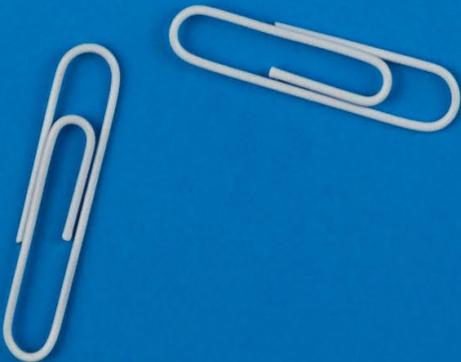
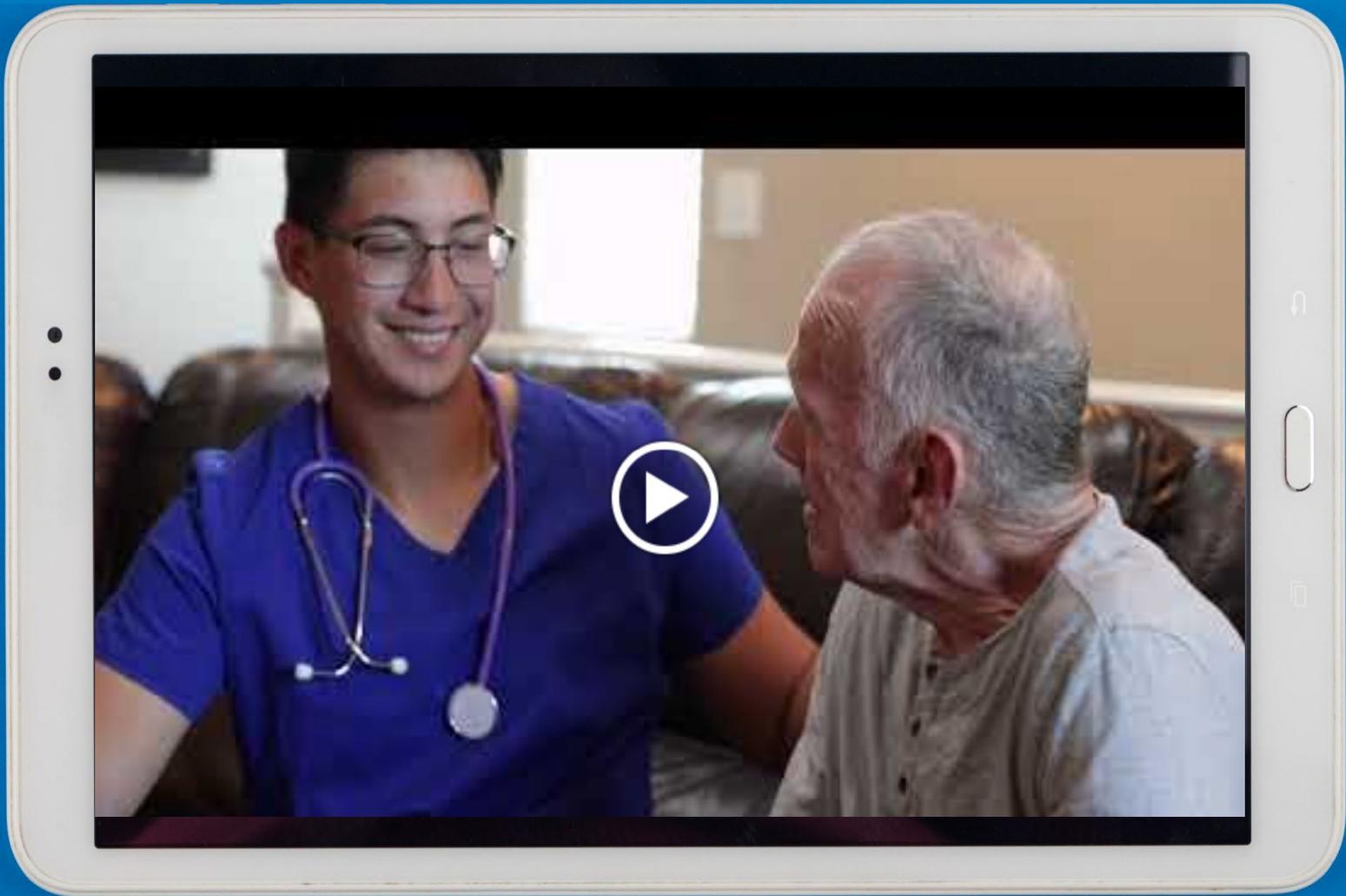


Presentation





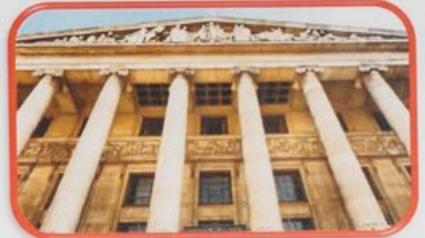
Original Videos to introduce and reinforce topics.



Law



Government



The Purpose of Government

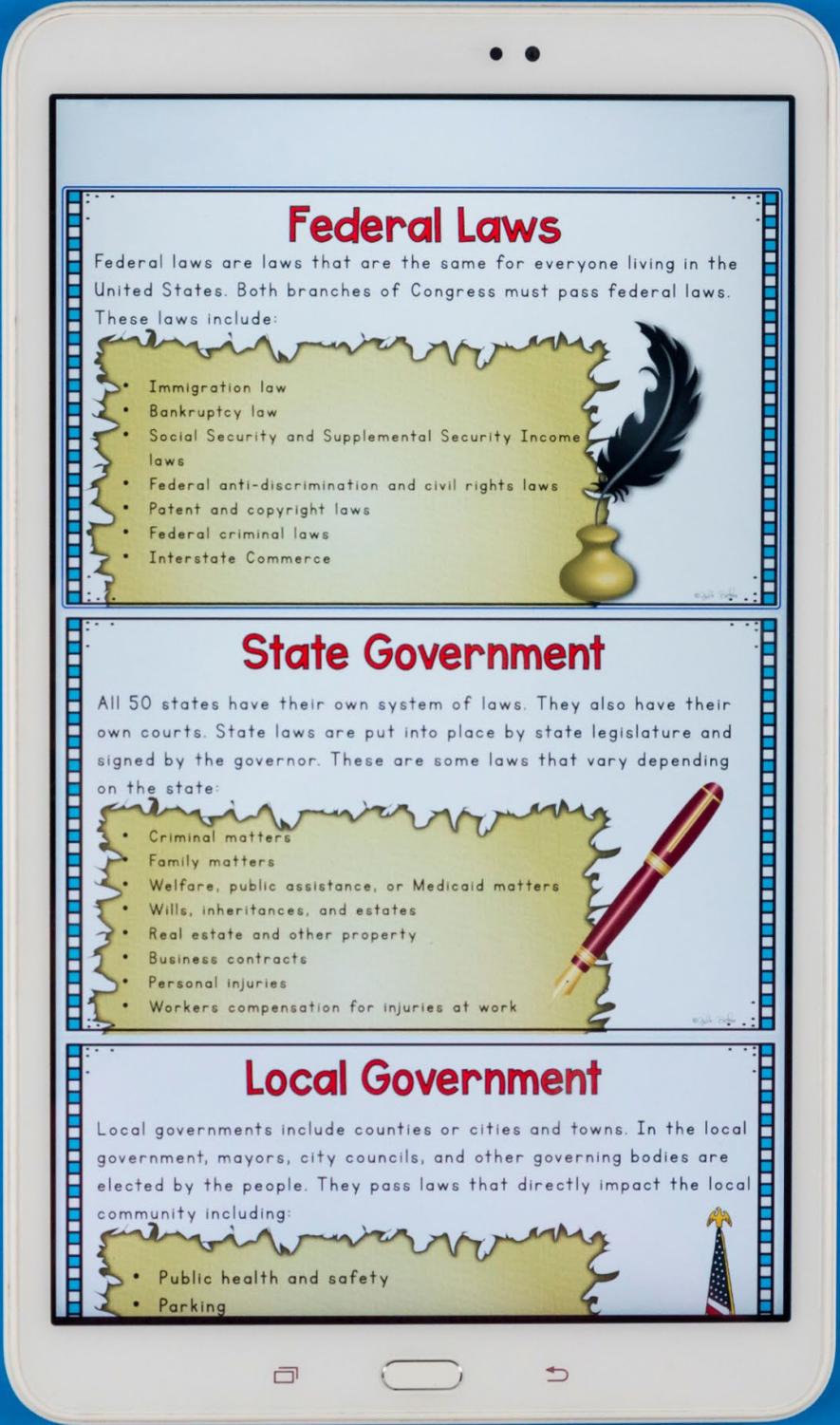


Federal



State





Federal Laws

Federal laws are laws that are the same for everyone living in the United States. Both branches of Congress must pass federal laws. These laws include:

- Immigration law
- Bankruptcy law
- Social Security and Supplemental Security Income laws
- Federal anti-discrimination and civil rights laws
- Patent and copyright laws
- Federal criminal laws
- Interstate Commerce



State Government

All 50 states have their own system of laws. They also have their own courts. State laws are put into place by state legislature and signed by the governor. These are some laws that vary depending on the state:

- Criminal matters
- Family matters
- Welfare, public assistance, or Medicaid matters
- Wills, inheritances, and estates
- Real estate and other property
- Business contracts
- Personal injuries
- Workers compensation for injuries at work



Local Government

Local governments include counties or cities and towns. In the local government, mayors, city councils, and other governing bodies are elected by the people. They pass laws that directly impact the local community including:

- Public health and safety
- Parking





Name: _____

Date: _____

Research

Read about the current justices here. Fill in the graphic organizer with facts about three justices of your choice.



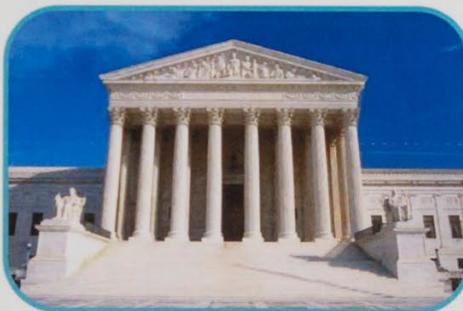
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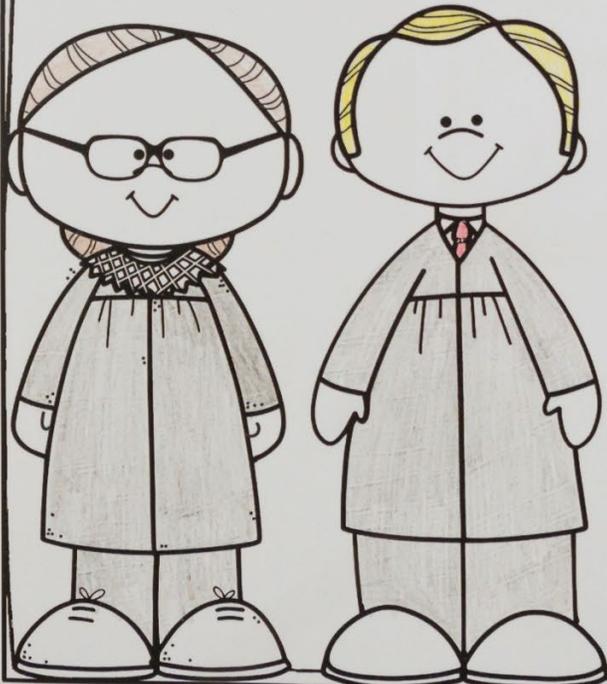
Supreme Court Justice

The Supreme Court is an important part of the United States Government. It is the highest level of court that exists in the country.

The Supreme Court interprets and protects the Constitution of the United States. Therefore, the nine Supreme Court justices are in charge of ensuring justice under the law for the American people.

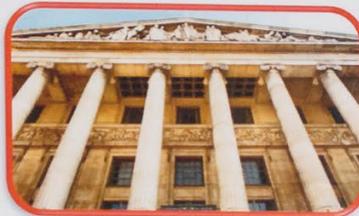


Since the Supreme Court was formed in the year 1790, there have been over one hundred justices (17 Chief Justices and 103 Associate Justices). On average, justices serve on the court for 16 years (some serve for only a few years, and others have served for 35 years!). Since 1869, there have been nine justices at all times. This number was determined by Congress because the Constitution does not require a specific number.



President Nomination and Year of Appointment	Other Facts
Donald J. Trump 27.10.2020	law clerk for Laurence H. Silberman
Bush October 23, 1991.	He was assistant attorney in Missouri
Barack Obama May 26, 2009	She was an editor of the Yale Law Journal

Government



Law



Date: _____

Quiz

Fill in the blanks with the words from the word bank. Some words may be used more than once.

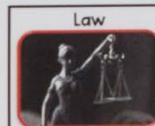
federal laws state government

The government is a group of people that rule a territory according to the law. America has a democracy, where the citizens choose elected officials to represent them. Laws are enacted to protect citizens. The federal government makes laws for the entire country to follow. The state governments make laws specific to states. The local government makes laws for counties, cities, or towns. All three work together to create a safe and productive society.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary Sort

Match the vocabulary words to the definitions.



the set of rules that people in a society must follow

a subdivision of a government

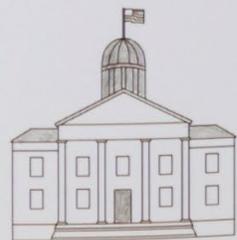
a group of people who rule a territory according to the law

the central government

Government

Government has three branches. Write the name of each branch below.

Legislative
Makes laws (Congress)



Executive
Carries out laws (president, vice president, cabinet)

Government Helps Us

List three ways the government helps us.



Builds roads

Builds schools



National Security

Write a paragraph summarizing this unit. Use each of the vocabulary words.

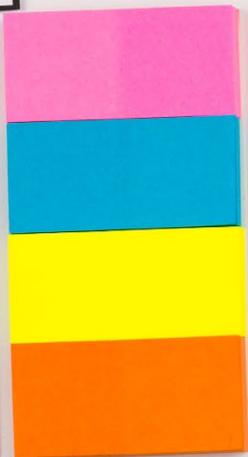
Law is a set of rules that people in a society must follow.

Federal government is the central government.

State



Government



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The Purpose of Government



Career Spotlight

Name: _____

Date: _____

Supreme Court Justice

Federal



An important part of
the country.

interprets and protects
the United States.

Supreme Court justices are
under the law for



Since the Supreme Court was formed in the year 1790, there have been over one hundred justices (17 Chief Justices and 103 Associate Justices). On average, justices serve on the court for 16 years (some serve for only a few years, and others have served for 35 years!). Since 1869, there have been nine justices at all times. This number

Unit Instructions

Time Commitment

This unit includes 10 days of lessons. It should take about thirty minutes for each social studies lesson.

This resource includes a Google Slides presentation. The presentation can easily be converted to PowerPoint. This presentation is meant to be used as a whole-class presentation, rather than a student activity.



Click here to access
the Google Slides
Presentation.

Please Note: This
presentation should
be used in "Present"
mode.

Magi
CORE

Unit 1: The Purpose of Government

Preparation:

- Print the vocabulary cards, student books, and worksheets before beginning. Each student will need their own copy of the book and worksheets.
- Picture Book or Read Aloud: *What If Everybody Did That?* by Ellen Javernic
- Prepare your technology to present the PowerPoint presentation and view the videos.

Day 1:

Tell students that this unit is about the purpose of government. We will be learning about why we have government and how the government serves citizens. Show students the vocabulary cards to introduce key vocabulary words. Distribute the K.W.L. chart. Have students share what they know about immigration. Discuss what students are wondering or want to know. Tell students that they will fill in what they learned at the end of this lesson.

Day 2:

Read Aloud: *What If Everybody Did That?* by Ellen Javernic. Read this picture book and discuss the importance of rules and laws.

Day 3:

Distribute the *Purpose of Government* book. Tell students that you will be going through a presentation together and along the way, students will find clues to fill in their books.

Begin the presentation. Review the key vocabulary, and review through slide 6 (The Role of Laws). While you go through the presentation, students should fill in their books. Give them time to color the pictures, as well.

Day 4: Review the vocabulary. Complete presentation slides 8-10 (Local Government).

Day 5: Review the vocabulary. Complete presentation slides 11-13.

Day 6: Complete vocabulary review sheet. Allow students time to complete their books.

Day 7: Reread *What If Everybody Did That?* by Ellen Javernic. Have students work in groups to complete the activities to brainstorm what might happen if everyone ignored laws.

Day 8-9: Career Spotlight: Supreme Court Justice.

Day 10: Give students the lesson quiz. Finally, work as a class to fill in the "L" portion of the K.W.L. Be sure to discuss any misconceptions students had about the purpose of the government.

Vocabulary

Government



Federal



Law



State



Name: _____ Date: _____

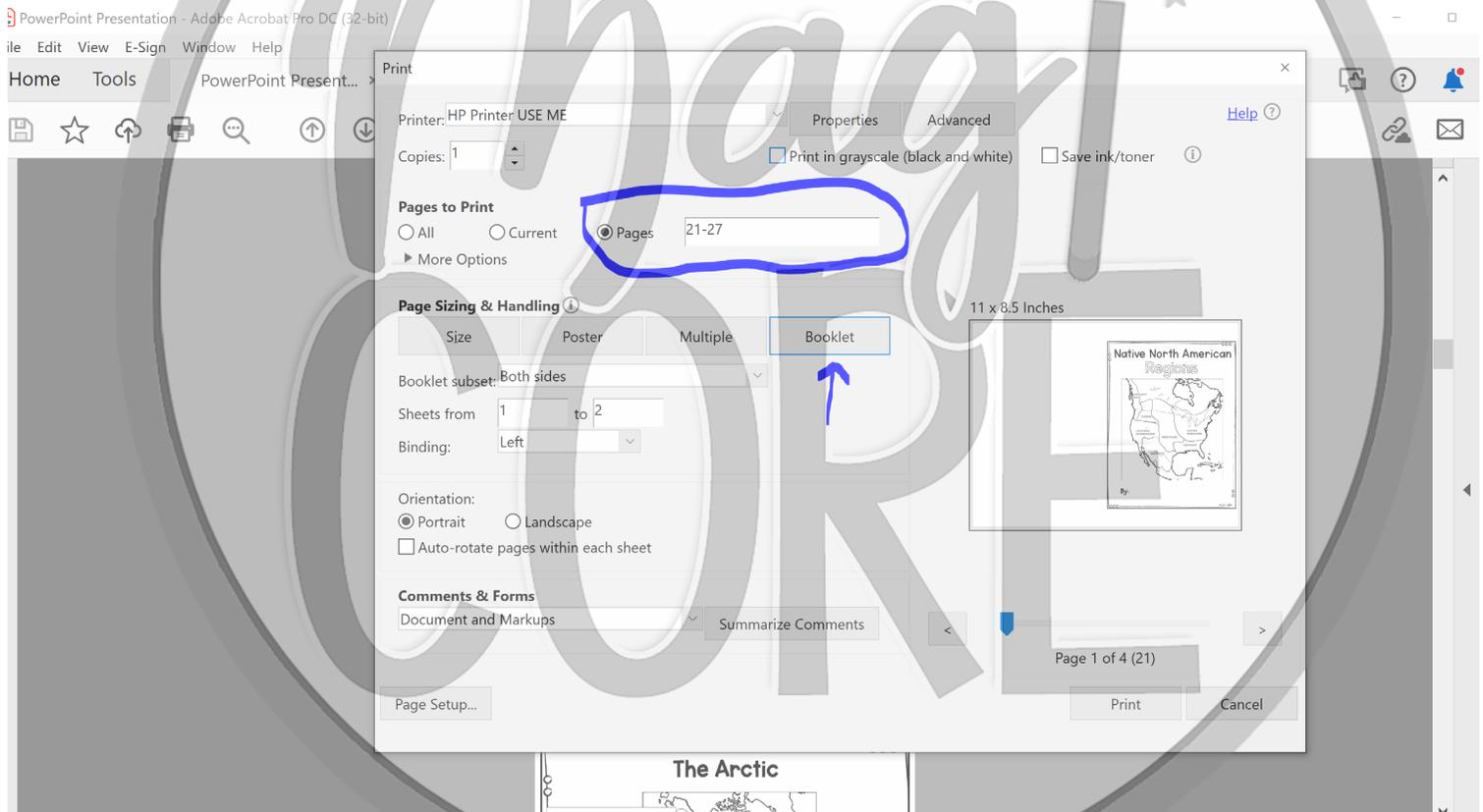
KWL: The Purpose of Government

Before beginning this unit, discuss what you already know about this topic. What do you hope to learn? At the end of the unit, fill in what you learned. Was your prior knowledge correct?

K. What do you know about the purpose of the government?	W. What do you want to learn about the government?	L. What did you learn about the government?

How to Print Booklet

Under the print menu, select the pages you would like to print. Check the “booklet” option. If you prefer, you can also select “Multiple” and print 4 pages per page. Select if you would like to print double or single-sided.

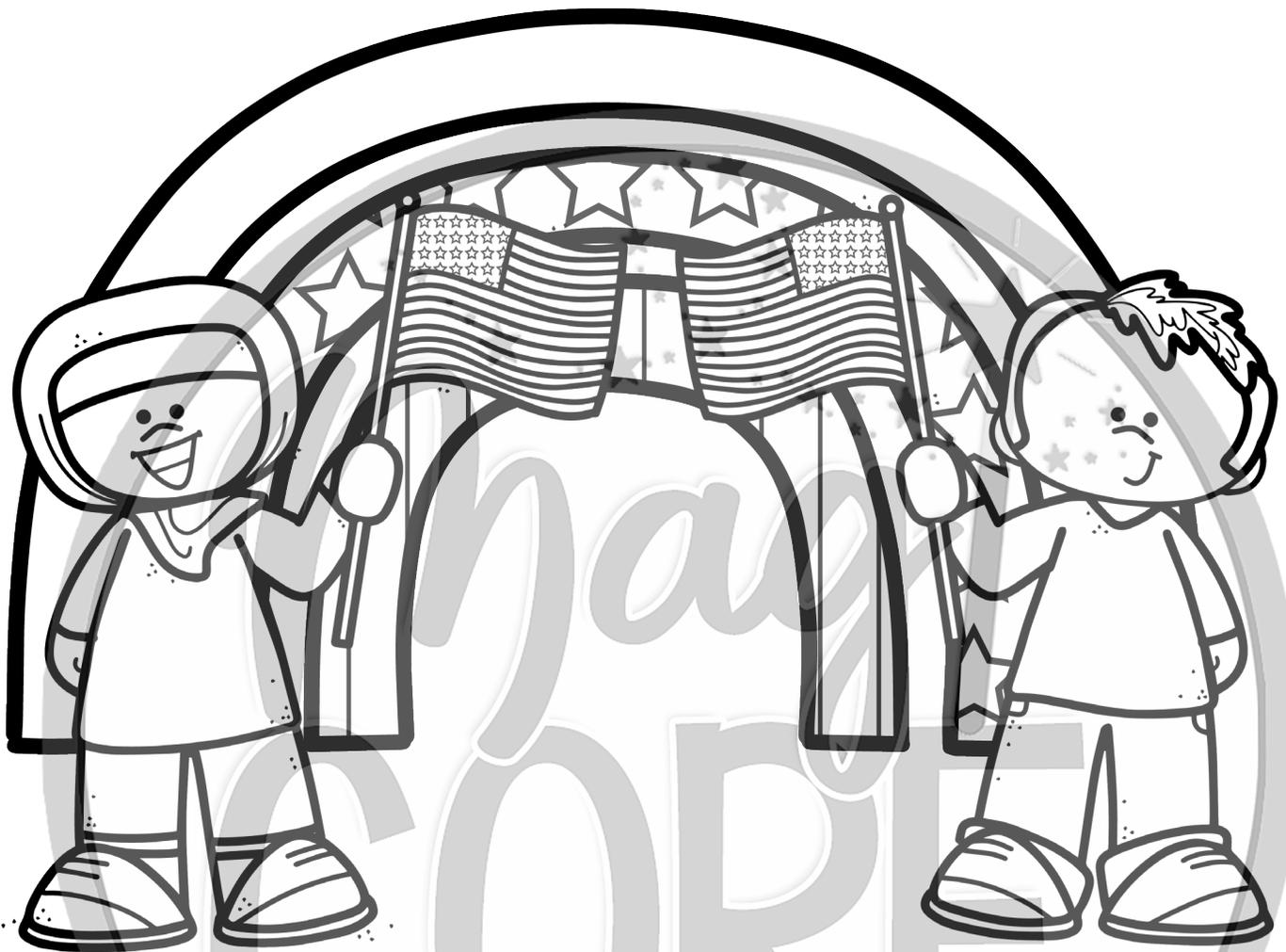


The Purpose of Government



By:

What is a Government?



A _____ is a group of people that rule a territory, according to the law. The territory may be a country, a state, or a region.

Why Do People Form Governments?



People need _____.

Governments create and enforce

_____. Laws are necessary for

society to work. Governments keep

order. They also _____ us.

Governments protect and provide for

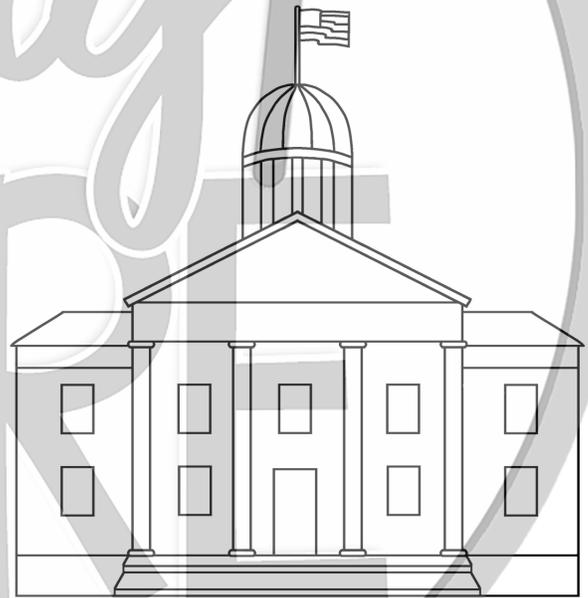
citizens.

Federal Government

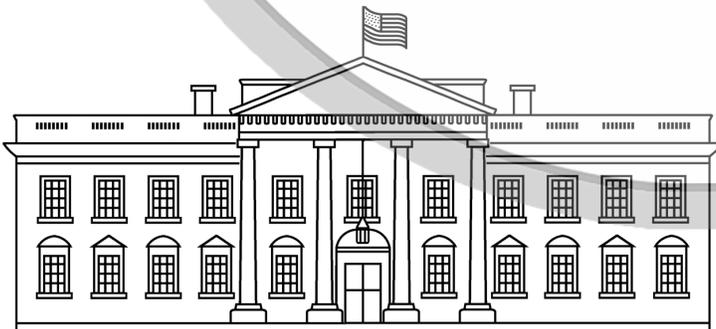
The federal government has -----
branches. Label each branch below.



Makes laws (Congress)



Evaluates laws (Supreme Court and other courts)



Carries out laws
(president, vice president, cabinet)

Federal Laws

List three examples of federal laws.

_____ laws are laws that are the same for everyone living in the United States. Both branches of Congress must pass federal laws.

State Government

List three examples of state laws.



All 50 states have their own system of _____. They also have their own courts. State laws are put into place by state legislature and signed by the _____.

Local Government

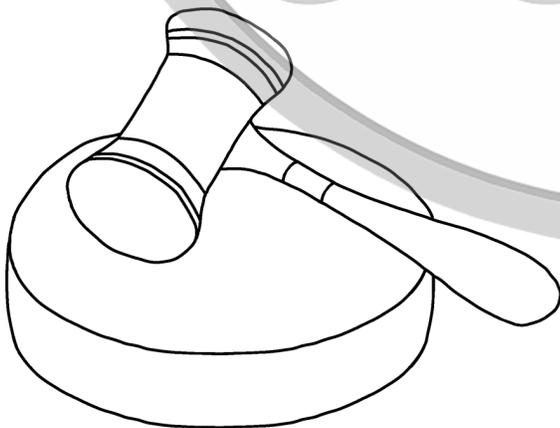
List three examples of local laws.



Local governments include counties or _____ and _____. In the local government, mayors, city councils, and other governing bodies are elected by the people. They pass laws that directly impact the local community.

Laws Keep Us Safe

List three ways laws help keep us safe.



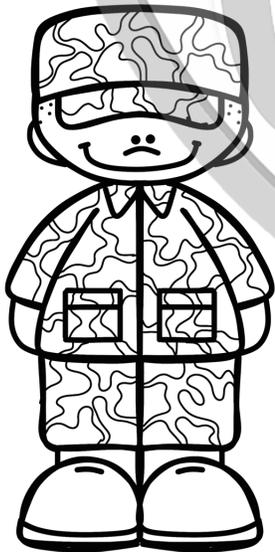
Government Helps Us

List three ways the government helps us.



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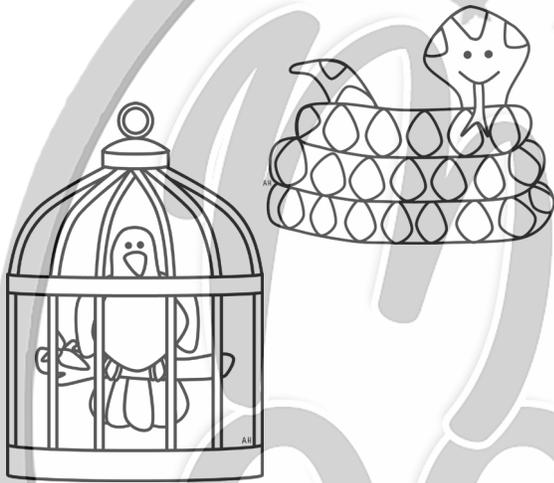
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Name: _____ Date: _____

Read Aloud: *What if Everybody Did That?*

At the beginning of this unit, we read the book *What If Everybody Did That?* by Ellen Javernic. Let's look at some laws. Add a few pages to the book illustrating what might happen if everyone broke the law.

Laws About Pets



Who makes laws about pets?

- Federal government
- State government
- Local Government

What if everyone ignored laws about pets?

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Career Spotlight

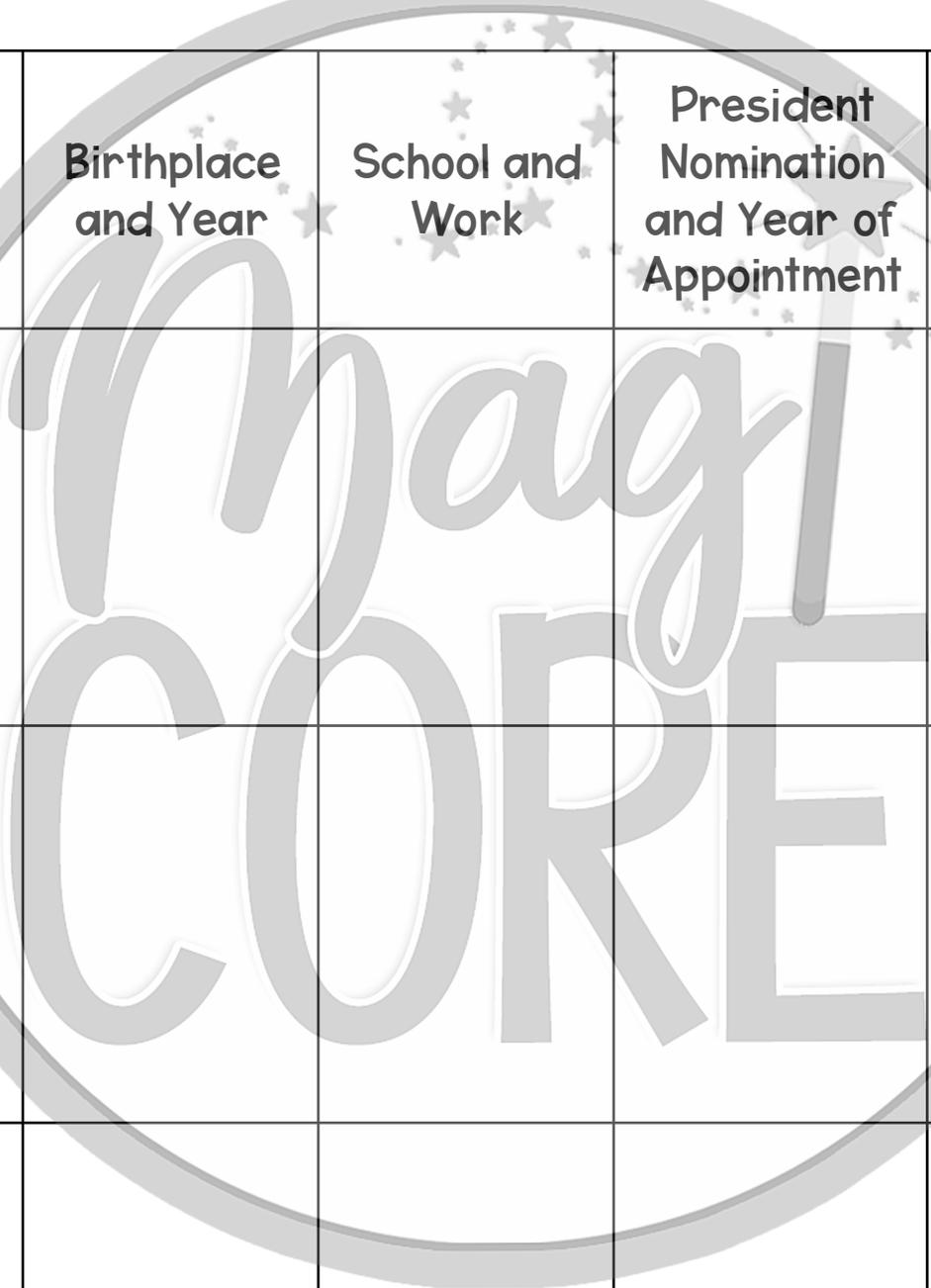
Name: _____

Date: _____

Research

Read about the [current justices](#) here. Fill in the graphic organizer with facts about three justices of your choice.

Name	Birthplace and Year	School and Work	President Nomination and Year of Appointment	Other Facts



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