

Name _____

Government Study Guide

Executive Branch

- Enforces/carries out/executes the laws
- The President is the leader of this branch at the national level.
- The Governor is the leader of this branch at the state level.
- The Commissioner or Mayor is the leader of this branch at the local level

Legislative Branch

- Makes the laws
- Congress is part of this branch at the national level. House of Representatives and Senate make up Congress.
- General Assembly is part of this branch at the state level.
- Board of Commissioners is part of this branch at the local level.

Judicial Branch

- Explains, interprets and applies the laws
- Supreme and Federal Courts are part of this branch at the national level.
 1. Supreme Court is the highest court and made up of 9 justices (judges) appointed by the President.
- Supreme Court is part of this branch at the state level.
- Clerk of Courts and Probate Court are part of this branch at the local level.

1. Separation of Powers among the branches of government makes sure no one branch has more power than any other. Checks and Balances checks the power of each branch to make sure the power is equal.

2. The national level is the highest level of authority.

3. National level is made up of the President, Vice President and the Cabinet – advisors to the President.

*The President lives in the White House.

4. Congress meets in the Capitol building to make the laws.

5. United States citizens vote for our President.

6. An election is where citizens vote to choose leaders.

7. The United States has a representative democracy where citizens vote on representatives to vote on laws.

8. A jury is a group of citizens who sit in a courtroom and listen to the facts of a case to determine if someone is guilty or innocent.

National Level responsibilities: coins money, declares war, conducts trade and treaties with foreign countries, collects federal income tax, national defense - military

State Level responsibilities: education, driver's licenses, state highways, collects state sales tax, hospitals

Local Level responsibilities: property lines, administers elections, makes laws on size of store signs, police and fire protection