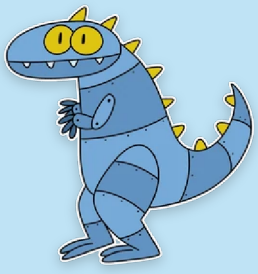
GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP · GRADES 2–5 · 1 OF 5

The Three Branches of Government



Fill in each branch with words from the word bank.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Word bank

Congress | the President | the Supreme Court | makes laws | carries out laws | decides what laws mean

The United States Government

Legislative branch

Who:

Job: it

Executive branch

Who:

Job: it

Judicial branch

Who:

Job: it

Checks and balances

- Each branch can check, or limit, the other two, so no branch gets too much power.
- Congress has two parts: the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Art © Kevin Coulston

GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP · GRADES 2–5 · 2 OF 5

Local, State or National?

Who leads each level? Then check the level of government that does each job.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Who leads? Use: governor, mayor, President

Local (city or town)	State	National (the whole country)
Leader: _____	Leader: _____	Leader: _____

Who does this job? Check one box.

	Local	State	National
Fixes potholes on city streets	☐	☐	☐
Runs the fire department	☐	☐	☐
Picks up trash and recycling	☐	☐	☐
Gives out driver's licenses	☐	☐	☐
Takes care of state parks	☐	☐	☐
Builds state highways	☐	☐	☐
Prints money	☐	☐	☐
Runs the U.S. Postal Service	☐	☐	☐
Makes treaties with other countries	☐	☐	☐

Art © Kevin Coulston

GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP · GRADES 2–5 · 3 OF 5

How I Can Be a Good Citizen

Check the good citizen actions you did this week. Then draw yourself helping your community.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

This week I...

- ☐ Followed the rules
- ☐ Helped a neighbor
- ☐ Picked up litter
- ☐ Recycled
- ☐ Told the truth
- ☐ Was kind to someone new
- ☐ Shared
- ☐ Took turns
- ☐ Listened to others
- ☐ Said thank you

Me helping my community

One thing I will do to make my school or town better

Art © Kevin Coulston

GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP · GRADES 2–5 · 4 OF 5

Class Vote: Ballots and Tally

Hold a class vote! Write the question and the choices. Cut out the ballots. Count the votes with tally marks.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Our question: _____

Class ballot ☐ A _____ ☐ B _____ ☐ C _____ Check one box.	**Class ballot** ☐ A _____ ☐ B _____ ☐ C _____ Check one box.	**Class ballot** ☐ A _____ ☐ B _____ ☐ C _____ Check one box.
Class ballot ☐ A _____ ☐ B _____ ☐ C _____ Check one box.	**Class ballot** ☐ A _____ ☐ B _____ ☐ C _____ Check one box.	**Class ballot** ☐ A _____ ☐ B _____ ☐ C _____ Check one box.

Tally the votes

Choice A _____ = _____

Choice B _____ = _____

Choice C _____ = _____

The winner is:

_____

_____

Art © Kevin Coulston

GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP · GRADES 2–5 · 5 OF 5

If I Were President

Imagine you are the President. Draw yourself, then write what you would do.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Real facts about the job

- A president must be at least 35 years old.
- A president must be a natural-born U.S. citizen and have lived in the United States for at least 14 years.
- A term is 4 years. A president can be elected no more than 2 times.

My official portrait

3 promises I would keep

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

A new law I would ask Congress to pass

Why it would help people

Art © Kevin Coulston

Answer key: Government and citizenship

The Three Branches of Government

1. **Legislative:** Congress, makes laws
2. **Executive:** the President, carries out laws
3. **Judicial:** the Supreme Court, decides what laws mean

Local, State or National?

Local: **mayor** State: **governor** National: **President**

1. Fixes potholes on city streets: **local**
2. Runs the fire department: **local**
3. Picks up trash and recycling: **local**
4. Gives out driver's licenses: **state**
5. Takes care of state parks: **state**
6. Builds state highways: **state**
7. Prints money: **national**
8. Runs the U.S. Postal Service: **national**
9. Makes treaties with other countries: **national**

Art © Kevin Coulston