

The Three Branches of Government

What are the Three Branches of Government?

The three branches of government are the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative branches. Our founding fathers that wrote the Constitution decided to have three branches so that there wouldn't be one person or group that had too much power. The branches of government exist at the state level and the federal level.

What are the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Branch?

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The Judicial B

decide if laws and other court decisions are constitutional and they also decide if parts of the Constitution should be changed. A Supreme Court Justice's term is unlimited. There are no rules on age, residency, or citizenship.

What are the roles and responsibilities of the Legislative Branch?

The **Legislative Branch** includes:

Congress- Members are elected to make laws. Congress is divided into two parts-

1. **House of Representatives-** Each state elects people to "represent" them in Congress. These representatives must live in the state he or she represents, be at least 25 years old and a citizen for the last 7 years. The larger the population the state has, the more representatives it can have. The House of Representatives vote on tax laws.

Name _____

Date _____

. **Senate**- Each state elects 2 people to the Senate. They are called Senators. A Senator must live in the state he or she represents, be at least 30 years old and a citizen for the last 9 years. The Senate looks at decisions the President has made and decides if they agree with the President. The Senate also has the power to impeach the President.

What are Checks and Balances?

Even though there are Three Branches of Government, they are not all separate. Checks and Balances allow each branch to check on other branches to make sure they are doing what is constitutional

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Name _____

Date _____

Questions for Reflection

1. What is the purpose of having three branches of government?

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President					
Supreme Court Justice					
Representative					
Senator					