

PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT



LESSON SUMMARY

BENCHMARK
SS.3.CG.1.1 Explain how the U.S. Constitution establishes the purpose and fulfills the need for government.
BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Students will explain the purpose of and need for government in terms of protection of rights, organization, security and services.
CORRELATED FLORIDA STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ ELA.3.R.2.1: <i>Explain how text features contribute to meaning and identify the text structures of chronology, comparison, and cause/effect in texts.</i>■ ELA.3.R.2.2: <i>Identify the central idea and explain how relevant details support that idea in a text.</i>■ ELA.3.R.3.2: <i>Summarize a text to enhance comprehension.</i>■ ELA.3.C.2.1: <i>Present information orally, in a logical sequence, using nonverbal cues, appropriate volume, and clear pronunciation.</i>■ ELA.3.V.1.1: <i>Use grade-level academic vocabulary appropriately in speaking and writing.</i>
ESSENTIAL QUESTION
What is the purpose and need for government?
VOCABULARY
U.S. Constitution, rights, security, services
MATERIALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ <i>Trouble Game Instructions image</i>■ <i>Purpose of Government instructions sheet</i>■ <i>Chart paper</i>■ <i>Sticky notes</i>

ACTIVITY SEQUENCE

INTRODUCTION/HOOK
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ask the students to raise their hand if they have ever played the board game <i>Trouble</i>.2. Project the “<i>Trouble</i> Game Instructions” image.3. Lead a discussion pointing out the different sections of the rules. Possible questions may include:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. How many people can play?b. How do you play the game?c. What is the object of the game?d. Who made the game?4. Ask the students why they think that a board game needs/comes with rules? (<i>Possible answers: so the game would be fair, so everyone knows how to play, so everyone understands what is allowed, keep the game organized, etc.</i>)
ACTIVITY
<ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Explain to the students that our government has a set of instructions (rules/laws) called the U.S. Constitution. The Constitution explains the purpose of the government, why a government is needed, and shows us as citizens how we can all “play”.6. Display the “Purpose of Government” instructions sheet. Share with students that the class is going to work to read the instructions on how the United States government is organized, its roles, and purpose.7. As a group or in pairs, read through the instructions sheet. Instruct students to highlight important vocabulary that explains the purpose of government. <p>Teacher Note: <i>You may complete this activity whole group, in small groups, or as a partner read, depending on the reading ability of students in your class. Regardless of how the instruction sheet is read, students should be responsible for identifying important content to highlight to remain engaged in the learning process.</i></p>
CLOSURE/FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT
<ol style="list-style-type: none">8. On a piece of chart paper, write the following question: “What is one purpose of our government?” Have the students answer the question on a sticky note and stick it on a piece of chart paper to refer back to throughout future lessons on the U.S. government.
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
FJCC/LFI Website
ANSWER KEYS
n/a

SOURCES

Game rules for *Trouble* by Hasbro: <https://www.officialgamerules.org/trouble>