

LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT



LESSON SUMMARY

BENCHMARK
SS.3.CG.3.2 Recognize that government has local, state, and national levels.
BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Students will recognize that each level of government has its own unique structure and responsibilities.■ Students will distinguish between the responsibilities of the local, state and national governments in the United States.
CORRELATED FLORIDA STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ ELA.3.F.1.3: <i>Use knowledge of grade-level phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words.</i>■ ELA.3.F.1.4: <i>Read grade-level texts with accuracy, automaticity, and appropriate prosody or expression.</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.1.3: <i>Use context clues, figurative language, word relationships, reference materials, and/or background knowledge to determine the meaning of multiple-meaning and unknown words and phrases, appropriate to grade level.</i>
ESSENTIAL QUESTION
What are the three levels of government?
VOCABULARY
local, state, national, government
MATERIALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Levels of Government Scenarios slides■ Chart paper■ Sticky notes■ Levels of Government reading■ Highlighters

- Levels of Government exit slip (2 per sheet)

ACTIVITY SEQUENCE

INTRODUCTION/HOOK

1. Open the “Levels of Government Scenarios” slides and display one at a time for your class.
2. Move through each scenario and have students answer and discuss which level of government they think pairs with the situation. The answers are in the Speaker Notes.
3. Use the last slide to explain to students that in our country, we have governments at three levels: the national level (applies to the entire U.S.), the state level (applies to just Florida); and the local level (applies to individual cities/counties/towns). Each level has its own structure and responsibilities dictated by constitutions.

ACTIVITY

Teacher Note: Prior to this activity, the teacher will need to set-up three large pieces of chart paper. One will be labeled “Local”, one “State”, and one “National”. Each one will have Responsibilities written on it as well. See sample here.

4. Separate the students into groups (six groups if possible).
5. Assign a level of government to each group. There should be two groups per level.
6. Pass out the appropriate section of the “Levels of Government” reading to each group.

Teacher Note: You will want to copy and cut these ahead of time based on class size.

7. Explain to students that they will be reading their section looking for that level of government’s responsibilities (what they are in charge of/supposed to do)
8. Have the students read and highlight important information related to responsibilities.
9. As a group, discuss what they found in the text.
10. As a group, have students transfer the information on responsibilities they found onto sticky notes. (One fact per sticky note)
11. As the students complete their task, have them place their sticky notes on the chart paper that goes with their assigned level of government.
12. Lead a discussion of the answers that the students have placed on the charts. Be sure to point out to the students that there are some responsibilities that the levels of government have in common and responsibilities that are different.

CLOSURE/FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

13. Hand out the “Levels of Government” exit slip and ask students to complete the matching independently.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

FJCC/LFI Website

ANSWER KEYS
<p>“Levels of Government” chart answer key</p> <p>“Levels of Government” exit slip answer key</p>
SOURCES
n/a