

STATE GOVERNMENT



LESSON SUMMARY

BENCHMARK
SS.4.CG.3.1 Explain the structure and functions of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government in Florida.
BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Students will compare the powers of Florida's three branches of government.■ Students will explain how the Declaration of Rights in the Florida Constitution protects the rights of citizens.
CORRELATED FLORIDA STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ ELA.4.F.1.4: Read grade-level texts with accuracy, automaticity, and appropriate prosody or expression.■ ELA.4.R.2.2: Explain how relevant details support the central idea, implied or explicit.■ ELA.4.R.3.2: Summarize a text to enhance comprehension.■ ELA.4.C.2.1: Present information orally, in a logical sequence, using nonverbal cues, appropriate volume, and clear pronunciation.■ ELA.4.C.4.1: Conduct research to answer a question, organizing information about the topic, using multiple valid sources.■ ELA.4.V.1.1: Use grade-level academic vocabulary appropriately in speaking and writing.■ ELA.4.V.1.3: 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.
ESSENTIAL QUESTION
How does the Florida constitution organize our state government?
VOCABULARY
legislative, executive, judicial, Florida Declaration of Rights
MATERIALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Government Analogies slides■ State Government reading■ Highlighters■ State Government reading slides■ State Government game

ACTIVITY SEQUENCE

INTRODUCTION/HOOK	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Begin by opening the “Government Analogies” slides. 2. Have your students begin to make connections and review elements of the national government that they’ve learned about previously. 	
ACTIVITY	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Remind students that state constitutions are set up to establish state and local governments. Alaska has different needs than Florida, so the U.S. Constitution allows for power to be divided up and shared between national, state, and local governments. Now, we will learn more about the state government’s structure, function, and powers. 4. Pass out the “State Government” reading and explain to students that they will read the passage as a whole class and mark text that helps them understand the three branches of the state government. <p>Teacher Note: <i>The “State Government” reading slides may be used for whole group reading.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Read the passage aloud as a class and pause to discuss/highlight important information through the text. 	
CLOSURE/FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Bring up the “State Government” game. Read through the scenarios and have the students determine if the scenario is describing the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of state government. <p>Teacher Note: <i>The game can be adapted in a number of ways to best fit the class. You can complete the game as a whole group by going through some or all of the scenarios and having students answer verbally or nonverbally (1 for executive, 2 for legislative, and 3 for judicial). You could have the students number a paper 1-10 and write their answers down to check it as a formative assessment. You could also print off the final page of the slides, cut them into strips, and have students work independently or in groups to put the sections back together correctly. This game can be played repeatedly during the year to serve as a review.</i></p>	
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES	
FJCC/LFI Website	
ANSWER KEYS	
n/a	
SOURCES	
n/a	