

TEACHER CRITICAL CONTENT NOTES

BENCHMARK
SS.3.CG.3.2 <i>Recognize that government has local, state, and national levels.</i>
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.

WHERE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN	
2nd Grade	<p>SS.2.CG.1.1 Explain why people form governments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will explain the role of laws in government. ● Students will define and provide examples of laws at the state and national levels. ● Students will use scenarios to identify the impact on government on daily life.
WHERE STUDENTS ARE GOING	
4th Grade	<p>SS.4.CG.3.1 Explain the structure and functions of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government in Florida.</p> <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. <p>SS.4.CG.3.2 Compare the structure, functions, and processes of local and state government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will identify how government is organized at the local and state level including, but not limited to, legislative branch (e.g., legislature, city/county commission), executive branch (e.g., governor, mayor) and judicial branch (e.g., county and circuit courts).
5th Grade	<p>SS.5.CG.3.6 Explain the relationship between the state and national governments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will define federalism as it applies to the United States. ● Students will provide examples of powers granted to the national government and those reserved to the states. ● Students will provide examples of cooperation between the U.S. and Florida governments.

TIMING/PACING NOTES

- This benchmark may be taught at any time throughout the school year.
- Teaching this benchmark alongside SS.3.CG.1.1, SS.3.CG.1.2, and SS.3.CG.3.1 may make content mastery more achievable for students.

UNDERSTANDING THE BENCHMARK

→ What to know:

- ◆ The benchmark cognitive demand is a lower DOK with recognize
- ◆ Recognize can mean: name, list, match, or write
- ◆ Distinguish can mean: name, list, match, compare, or write
- ◆ While each level has unique structure and responsibilities, there are consistencies such as divisions of power, checks and balances, and voter voice
- ◆ The U.S. Constitution and Florida Constitution provide the framework for the structure, function, and responsibilities of each level of government
- ◆ The 10th Amendment defines the concept of federalism, the relationship between the national and state governments
- ◆ The powers and responsibilities of the the three levels are both specific to one level (delegated/reserved) and overlapping (concurrent)
- ◆ National government and federal government are synonymous in this context
- ◆ Local and state government responsibilities contribute to the greatest impact on citizens' daily lives

→ Main concepts to teach:

- ◆ The three levels of government: local, state, and national
- ◆ Each level of government has its own unique structure and responsibilities
- ◆ The responsibilities of local, state, and national governments in the United States

→ Examples:

- ◆ National government:
 - Pertains to the entire country; mostly located in Washington D.C.
 - 3 branches (executive, judicial, and legislative)
 - Framework outlined by the U.S. Constitution
 - President, Congress, Supreme Court/federal courts
 - Elections for most positions
 - Responsibilities include:
 - Creating laws, enforcing laws, interpreting laws, protecting the rights of citizens, national park service, federal agencies, foreign relations, coining money, taxing, declaring war, etc.
- ◆ State government:
 - Pertains to just one state; Florida
 - 3 branches (executive, judicial, and legislative)
 - Framework outlined by Florida Constitution
 - Governor, Florida Legislature, state courts
 - Elections for most positions
 - Responsibilities include:
 - State parks, highway and interstate management, licenses, law making, state agencies, protecting rights of citizens, taxing, establishing public schools, conducting elections, etc.

- ◆ Local government:
 - Pertains to towns, counties, villages, municipalities, cities etc.
 - 3 branches (executive, judicial, and legislative)
 - Framework established by Florida Constitution and local charters
 - Mayor/manager/commissioner, councils/commission, county or municipal courts
 - Elections for most positions
 - Responsibilities include:
 - care of parks, police, fire and rescue, housing, education, taxing, budgets, public works (sewage, streets, garbage, electricity, water, etc.,) transportation services, protecting rights of citizens, hospitals, etc.

CONTENT BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Information on government:

1. [Bill of Rights Institute: Purpose of Government](#)
2. [Britannica: Federalism](#)
3. [FJCC: Levels of Government](#)

Information on the national government:

1. [USA.gov: Branches of Government](#)

Information on the state government:

1. [Florida Government Diagram](#)
2. [State of Florida Organizational Chart](#)
3. [White House: State and Local Government](#)

Information on the local government:

1. [Florida DOS: Local Government](#)