

# **THE THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT**



**Social Studies**

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# UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

- The **Constitution** created a government of three equal **branches**, or parts.
- The Constitution is the plan and set of rules for our **government**.
- The three branches are:

- **LEGISLATIVE**
- **EXECUTIVE**
- **JUDICIAL**



# THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

- **The Constitution created **Congress**.**
- **It is a group of people elected to make **laws** for the country.**
- **Congress has two parts: The **Senate** and The **House of Representatives**.**



# THE SENATE

- There are **100 senators**.
- Each state has two senators.
- A Senator is in office for 6 years. This is called a "**term**."
- Senators meet in the **U.S. Capitol** building



# THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- There are 435 **representatives**.
- The more people that live in a state, the more representatives it has.
- Representatives serve for a term of two years.
- They can be **elected** for more than one term.



# THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

- The **president**, or **Chief Executive**, is the head of the government.
- Americans vote every four years for their leader of their **democratic society**.
- After elected to serve his/her country, the president lives and works in the **White House**.
- The president is in charge of the **armed forces**.
- The president works with leaders of other countries.



# THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

- The **Supreme Court** is the highest court in the U. S., and is the **system of courts** to settle questions about the laws.
- The nine **justices** can **serve** for as long as they live, or wish to retire.
- Each justice is chosen by the president.



# GOVERNMENT

- **The president carries out the laws of the United States.**
- **The Congress (Senate and House of Representatives) makes the laws.**
- **The Supreme Court explains the laws.**



# Democracy Rules !

