

Sequence and Scope

Civics and Government

[Macmillan/McGraw-Hill](#)

Civics/Government - Kindergarten

- Children will discover that the **Constitution** was written **long ago** and that this **document** established **laws** for **our country**. They will learn about **rules and laws** and how they help **keep us safe**. They will be introduced to important **leaders** of our country and recognize how they help us follow the laws. They will discuss the importance of being an active **voter** and what it means to be a **citizen** of the **United States**. Children will identify **symbols** of our country and their state as well as compare them to the symbols of **India**.

Civics/Government - Grade 1

- This unit focuses on our country's government and how it began long ago. Students are introduced to the **Declaration of Independence** which proclaimed independence from **England**. The **Constitution** is a plan for our government and contains the laws that rule our country and keep Americans **free**. The **President** is the **leader** of our country. **States** and **communities** have laws and **leaders**, too. The people who live in a country are **citizens**. Citizens **vote** for their leaders. American citizens celebrate **independence** from **England** each **July 4**.

Civics/Government - Grade 2

- The **Constitution** gives Americans many freedoms. One of these freedoms is the **right to choose** our **government leaders**. Our government makes laws that help us all **get along**. Many people make up the United States government. The leader of our government is called **the President**. The President helps make sure everyone follows the laws in our country. **Congress** is a large group of people who make our country's laws. **The Supreme Court** is made up of **judges** who make sure that our laws are fair and follow the **Constitution**. The President, Congress, and the Supreme Court all work in the country's **capital, Washington, D.C.**
- Our **states** and **communities** also have governments made up of leaders, **lawmakers**, and **judges**. The leader of a state government is called a **governor**. In a community, the government leader is called a **mayor**. All governments are important because they make sure that **citizens** are treated fairly. In the past, our citizens have had to fight to be treated fairly. Many important leaders, like **Susan B. Anthony** and **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, have helped to make sure that the laws are fair and that all people share the freedoms in the **Constitution**.

Civics/Government - Grade 3

- The United States government works to protect the **rights of its citizens**. Songs, such as "**The Star-Spangled Banner**", and **symbols**, such as the **flag** and the **Liberty Bell**, represent our country.
- Our **state governments** have **three branches** that **share power**. The state government collects **taxes** from its citizens to pay for schools, parks, and highways. The **local government** runs a **town or a city**. This level of government is the level of government that most closely touches our everyday lives. It includes a **mayor and city workers**. **Native American governments** work with the national, state, and local governments.
- **Rules and laws** protect us and help us get along. Governments make laws for the **common good**. The **Bill of Rights** protects our rights and makes sure we have the **freedom to say and write what we want**. People **vote** for **lawmakers** who will help their **community**.

Civics/Government - Grade 4

- The **democratic government** in the United States is run by its **people**. The United States government includes the **executive branch**, the **legislative branch**, and the **judicial branch**. There are also **tribal governments** on **Native American reservations**. The United States Constitution established rights and freedoms for Americans to have a say in how the nation is governed. **Patriotism** and **standing up for fairness** and **justice** are **democratic values** that Americans respect.

Civics/Government - Grade 5

- Much like the way our market economy promotes choice, so does the **representative democracy** of **the United States**. While the **political party** in **power** has changed many times, the **framework of the government** remains the same. The Constitution **separates powers** between **three branches** and outlines a **federal system**. The Constitution guarantees **freedoms** such as **speech and religion**. Citizens have **responsibilities** to the government, including **obeying the law** and **voting**.