

Name _____

Date _____



Local, State, and Federal Government

A government is a group of people that makes

Decisions for a town, city, country, or state.

There are levels to the government and the officials,

However the importance of each one is equal.

So let's break it down so you understand

How each level works hand in hand.

Here in the US there are three types of government.

The responsibilities that they handle are different:

Local, state and federal.

You may ask yourself well, what do they do?

Well, lets start with local, what that means

Is that in your city, town, or county,

You might have a mayor and city or town council

Who run the public services that we count on,

Like the fire department, police department.

They're even in charge of parks where you live.

And one of the most important things of all,

They are the ones who pass local laws.

And since the city that I'm in is in a state,

There's another level of government to explain.

At the state level, reps from around the state

Are the ones who help decide what laws to make.

The head of the state government is the governor.

And also, there are a few state judges for

Deciding what's allowed under the constitution.

There's a couple other things state governments are doing,

Like protecting wildlife, building roads, passing laws,

Running colleges and deciding what's taught
In public schools to the students of the state,
And how to spend the state's money in the best way.
And since the country that I'm in contains 50 states,
There's one more level that we've got to explain.
The federal government of the United States
Is the national level that governs the whole place.
And it's run by Congress and federal judges,
As well as the president, you might have heard of 'em.
Their responsibilities include several things:
Making laws, highways and airports, funding
Programs for citizens like affordable healthcare,
Even printing money. Let's see, what else? There's
Keeping our military well organized
And regulating pollution of land and skies.
Since they each handle different responsibilities,
These types of government—yup, all three—
Local, state, and federal, equally,
They have to work together for things to run smoothly.