

Name _____

Date _____



What Is a Government?

Government, government, their job is to help us every day,

Making laws and solving problems, keeping us OK.

Government, government, meant to work for me and you—

Services for everyone, designed for all to use.

A community is a group of people who live or work together.

Communities have leaders that help make them better.

By making decisions and keeping people safe,

Leaders find ways to make the community better every day.

At school, our teachers and principals make rules

And help students learn the best decisions to choose.

In a city, state, or country, we want to see

The government work in ways that help out the community.

A government is formed to keep people safe

And provide services they use every day.

They have the power to make laws and rules

And provide services for everyone to use.

The US government is made up of leaders,

Like the president, governors, and mayors who oversee if

Laws are being followed, if the laws are fair,

And if rights are protected in the communities we share.

Rights are freedoms that every person has—

The right to learn, the right to be safe

Where you're at,

The right to be treated with respect.

These are rights the government's supposed to protect.

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The government not only makes laws,

It has other purposes,

Like providing people with services.

Services are different things that are helpful to communities.

For example, the government provides schools, libraries,

Postal services, and hospitals.

It also builds highways, bridges, parks, and roads.

These services are public,

Meaning that everyone can use them, and the community is better because of it.

Governments look different around the world.

Some are led by a prime minister or royalty.

Because of this, the way the government makes laws or services they provide looks differently.

One thing I hope they all have in common

Is their goal to keep their citizens safe

And creating a place for everyone to live peacefully every single day.

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