



Lesson Title: The Three Branches of Government

Essential Questions: What are the three branches of government in the United States and what does each branch do?

Materials

- Smart Learning Suite Online
- Internet capable device (laptop, iPad, smartphone etc.)
- Google Meet (for extension activity)
- Google Form

Standards

- Key Idea 5.1
 - The study of civics, citizenship, and government involves learning about political systems, the purposes of government and civic life, and the differing assumptions held by people across time and place regarding power, authority, governance, and law
- Key Idea 5.3
 - Central to civics and citizenship is an understanding of the roles of the citizen within American constitutional democracy and the scope of a citizen's rights and responsibilities

Objective

- Students will learn about the three branches of government: legislative, executive and judicial
- Students will analyze the differences between each branch of government
- Students will learn about check and balances
- Students will discuss what part of government they believe is most important

Technology Skills Needed

- Creating a SMART Notebook Lesson
- Creating LAB Activities in SMART Notebook
- Uploading Notebook Lessons to SMART Learning Suite Online
- Using the Editing and Creation tools in SLSO
- Creating a Google Form



Procedure

1. Students will fill out a Google Form as a precursor activity, asking them what they think is most important in our government: Congress, the President and the Supreme Court. I will also ask which of the three they think is least important.
2. Students will read through the lesson, learning about the three branches of government as well as checks and balances.
3. Students will complete various lab activities throughout the lesson.
4. Students will complete a monster quiz at the end of the lesson

Extension Activity

- Students will be asked the same question as in the Do Now, except it will now be the three branches of government listed instead. They will answer the question and discuss why they changed their answer or kept it the same. The whole class will then go on a Google Meet and debate their answers.