Unit 1 - Functions of State and Local Governments

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s): **Civics**
Time Period: **September**
Length: **5 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Transfer

Understand the role that compromise played in the creation and adoption of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Enduring Understandings

The objective of the Constitution was to share the balance of power within the government, protect individual rights and provided for the separation of church and state.

The Constitution sets forth the basic principles of government and is a living document that affects the everyday lives of American citizens.

Active participation as an American citizen influences the government in many ways.

The Constitution is the basis for our laws and rights.

Essential Questions

How do the state's powers compare to those of the federal government?

How is the organization of most state legislatures similar to that of U.S. Congress?

How do state court systems work?

What purposes do local governments serve?

In what areas do the three levels of government sometimes compete?

How might curfew laws protect teenagers? Do you feel that such laws are constitutional?

Which of the three forms of city government do you think offers the most effective system of checks and balances in local government?

Content

Vocabulary

Learning Objectives

Explain how states cooperate with each other and with the federal government.

Analyze why the populations in state election districts must be as equal as possible.

Describe how presiding officers are chosen and analyze how the work of the state legislatures is carried out in most states.

Describe the kind of cases that state courts handle.

Explain how and why local governments are established.

Identify the types of city governments and their functions.

Analyze why there is a division of powers among different levels of government.

Identify the government functions that require the cooperation of different levels of government.

Resources

Standards

SOC.6.1.8.3	Revolution and the New Nation (1754-1820s)
SOC.6.1.8.A	Civics, Government, and Human Rights
SOC.6.1.8.A.2.a	Determine the roles of religious freedom and participatory government in various North American colonies.
SOC.6.1.8.A.2.b	Explain how and why early government structures developed, and determine the impact of these early structures on the evolution of American politics and institutions.
SOC.6.1.8.A.3.b	Evaluate the effectiveness of the fundamental principles of the Constitution (i.e., consent of the governed, rule of law, federalism, limited government, separation of powers, checks and balances, and individual rights) in establishing a federal government that allows for growth and change over time.
SOC.6.1.8.A.3.c	Determine the role that compromise played in the creation and adoption of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.
SOC.6.1.8.C	Economics, Innovation, and Technology
SOC.6.1.8.C.1.b	Explain why individuals and societies trade, how trade functions, and the role of trade during this period.
SOC.6.3.8.C.1	Examine the perspectives of multiple stakeholders involved in the local budget process (e.g., obtaining information, discussing priorities).
SOC.6.3.8.D.1	Engage in simulated democratic processes (e.g., legislative hearings, judicial proceedings, elections) to understand how conflicting points of view are addressed in a democratic society.
SOC.6.3.8.CS.C	Economics, Innovation, and Technology
SOC.6.3.8.CS.D	History, Culture, and Perspectives