



Democracy



Badge Overview

How much do you know about how your government works? In one 2019 survey, only 39% of adults were able to name all three branches of government. In this badge, you'll learn all about those branches—and more. Get ready to wow the adults in your life! When you've earned this badge, you will have expanded your knowledge about how your local, state, and national government work.

Badge Components

1. Find out about local government

Find an issue that impacts your local community. What actions can you take as a citizen to make positive change? Now that you've researched some steps that you can take towards positively impacting your community, follow through with one of those steps to take a step towards solving the issue that you've identified.

- For example, if your favorite park was being torn down to be replaced by a commercial development, you could attend a town meeting or write a letter to city officials to advocate for why you don't think this should happen.

2. Find out about state government

Filibusters are strategic actions that congressionals can use to advocate for issues to be passed or to keep them from being passed.

- Watch this [video](#) to find out what a filibuster is and its role in our law making process.

3. Find out about the federal legislative branch

Lobbying is a way for people or organizations to influence the legislative process.

- What is a lobbyist and how do they work? Research three industries that lobbyists represent and what are they advocating for.

4. Find out about the federal executive branch

The Presidential Cabinet is an advisory team to the President that is composed of the heads of the 15 executive department heads.

- Use this [worksheet](#) to name the 15 department heads.

5. Find out about the federal judicial branch

How does a case get to the Supreme Court? Watch this [video](#) to understand the procedures of the Supreme Court.

- After you've watched this video, take a look at a case that's currently making its way to the Supreme Court. What is the case about? What courts has the case been heard in so far? What does the case need to do to reach the Supreme Court?

Materials

- Something to write with
- Something to write on
- [Executive Branch Worksheet](#)

Florida Educational Standards

The content of all Girl Scout national proficiency Badges and Journeys have been correlated by grade level to national and state learning objectives.

[Click here](#) for more information on how Girl Scout Badge-work supports Florida's educational standards.



We love to see Girl Scouts in action. Snap a photo and send it to marcomm@gssef.org.

Include her name, troop# and the name of the badge she's working on and we'll feature her.

Questions? Contact customercare@gssef.org