DAILY Warm-Up 6

Name _____ Date _____

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

There are three main branches of the federal government. These branches are the judicial branch, the executive branch, and the legislative branch. Each of these branches plays an important role in the federal government. Do you know what role each branch performs?

The judicial branch is made up of the court system. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the land. The Supreme Court decides whether a law is constitutional or not. The courts decide arguments about the meaning of laws, how they are applied, and whether they break the Constitution or not.

The executive branch of the federal government makes sure that the laws are obeyed. The president is part of the executive branch. The president needs a lot of help from the vice president, the cabinet, departments, as well as independent agencies to enforce the law.

The legislative branch is made up of Congress and government agencies. Congress has two parts. They are the Senate and the House of Representatives. This branch of government creates and passes the laws of the land. Congress also makes laws about taxes and borrowing money, and it approves the making of money. Congress can also declare war on other countries.

Each branch has its own functions that help our government run smoothly. Each branch can also limit the power of the other two branches. This is called Checks and Balances.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Which branch of government passes new laws in this country?
   a. Library of Congress
   b. judicial
   c. executive
   d. legislative

2. Which paragraph explains which branch of the federal government the Senate and the House of Representatives belong to?
   a. first paragraph
   b. second paragraph
   c. third paragraph
   d. fourth paragraph

3. After reading the passage, who assists the president in enforcing the law?
   a. vice president and the cabinet
   b. The Supreme Court
   c. constituents
   d. Congress

LIVEWORKSHEETS