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GOVERNMENT

The Mid-Atlantic region played a key role in establishing the United States' government. Four cities in the region have been the US capital. Philadelphia served as the nation's capital during the Revolutionary War. New York and Annapolis briefly served as capital cities until Washington, DC, was built.

When you have completed this lesson, you should be able to:

✓ OBJECTIVES

Recognize the importance of government in the United States.

VOCABULARY

branch	a part of government
democracy	government elected by the people
establishing	making

Question #1 TrueFalse

Show Answer

Annapolis is the US capital.

True

False

A BETTER GOVERNMENT

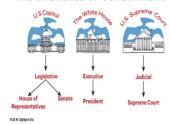
Teacher Only: For a more in-depth study on government, you could have your students access t... Continue Reading

Once the colonists had won their independence, they began their work in establishing a new country. The leaders knew they didn't want a government where one person, like the English king, had all of the power. Instead, they wanted a democracy where all people had a say or vote. In the beginning, only free men had the right to vote. Later former slaves and women received the right to vote.

The leaders of the new country decided to organize the government in three branches. This limited the amount of power one person or group would have. The three branches were the legislative, executive, and judicial. Laws would be made in the legislative branch. The US Senate and the US House of Representatives make up this branch. The second branch was the executive. The president of the United States leads this branch of government. The executive branch makes sure the laws are obeyed. The president is also the head of the military. The final branch is the judicial branch. The court

?

The Branches of Government



The new government wanted to make sure that people were not punished for having views that might be different from others. You may remember that the founders of Maryland wanted people to worship God as they chose. After writing the US Constitution, the leaders wrote The Bill of Rights. The first thing they wrote was "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." This meant that people could worship God freely. They did not need to fear that the government would tell them they couldn't worship God or that they could only worship God at one type of church. Among other things, The Bill of Rights stated that people had the right to free speech and to carry weapons.

The type of government the United States formed is called a democracy. A democracy is a government ruled by the people. Other democratio nations include Brazil, South Korea, Mexico, and many others.



Question #2 TrueFalse
Show Answer
All men and women of the United States have always had the right to vote.
. True
© False
U raise
Question #3 TrueFalse
Show Answer
The United States has four branches of government.
O True
False
Question #4 TrueFalse
Show Answer
The president is head of the judicial branch of government.
○ True
○ False
Question #5 TrueFalse
Show Answer
The Bill of Rights allows all Americans to worship as they choose.
O True
© False
U Falso