



## Learning About Government With Goofy

### *Introduction to Government*

*Look and listen for the answers to the questions below as you view this filmstrip/cassette presentation.*

1. Part of the government is in \_\_\_\_\_, but part is also right here in your own \_\_\_\_\_. You and everybody else have a \_\_\_\_\_ in the government.
2. Government is set up by \_\_\_\_\_ in a society to help them live together \_\_\_\_\_.
3. One of government's most important jobs is to make \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to help people live together peacefully and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The police try to see that we obey the \_\_\_\_\_ that government sets up to protect our interests.
5. When people pay their \_\_\_\_\_ to the government, part of that money pays for \_\_\_\_\_ protection. Government also uses tax money to pay for \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Government can also help us protect ourselves from other \_\_\_\_\_ in the world and in some cases come to the aid of other nations that need our \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Our government was established to work for the \_\_\_\_\_.

8. The early settlers in the American colonies weren't happy with the \_\_\_\_\_ the English king expected them to obey. They wanted a \_\_\_\_\_ in the government.
9. Our nation's founders wanted to establish an effective \_\_\_\_\_ in which the people could take \_\_\_\_\_ in their own government., so they wrote the \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The Constitution is the \_\_\_\_\_ of our government.
11. Part of the Constitution is our Bill of \_\_\_\_\_ which guarantees our \_\_\_\_\_ today.
12. We have the kind of government in which we the \_\_\_\_\_ can be involved. If we don't like certain things about our government, there are many ways we can try to make \_\_\_\_\_.



# The Job of the President

1. After a bill is passed by Congress, the President can:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ it,
  - b. disapprove it and not \_\_\_\_\_, or
  - c. send it back to Congress for \_\_\_\_\_.
  
2. The President also proposes the \_\_\_\_\_, represents our nation in \_\_\_\_\_ affairs, is commander-in-chief of our \_\_\_\_\_ forces, and is responsible for naming members of the \_\_\_\_\_ and for filling openings in the \_\_\_\_\_.
  
3. To be elected President a person must
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. A President may be elected for \_\_\_\_\_ terms. A term is \_\_\_\_\_ years long.
  
5. The people do not \_\_\_\_\_ elect the President. This is done by a group of people called \_\_\_\_\_. The candidate with the majority of \_\_\_\_\_ votes wins.

6. Cabinet members \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to the President. Each "Secretary" is responsible for a different \_\_\_\_\_ in the government.
7. The Vice President leads the \_\_\_\_\_. If the President becomes ill or dies, the Vice President takes over and becomes \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The Constitution sets up a system of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to make sure the President does not become too powerful.
  - a. The Supreme Court can declare a law \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. The President can \_\_\_\_\_ a bill, but Congress can \_\_\_\_\_ the veto.
  - c. Only \_\_\_\_\_ can declare war.
  - d. If the President ever breaks the law, he can be \_\_\_\_\_ and possible \_\_\_\_\_ from office.



# Inside Congress

1. Congress is the part of our national government that \_\_\_\_\_ our laws.
2. The Congress is made up of two "houses"
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
3. In the Senate, each state has \_\_\_\_\_ Senators to represent it.
4. In the House of Representatives, each state would be represented according to its \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The powers of Congress include the power to (list as many as possible):

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6. Both the House and the Senate must vote in favor of a \_\_\_\_\_  
for it to become a \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Members of the House of Representatives are elected for a term of \_\_\_\_\_ years, while Senators are elected for \_\_\_\_\_ years.
8. Congress can make laws only within the limits set up by the \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The Constitution allows Congress to pass laws which are " \_\_\_\_\_ " and " \_\_\_\_\_ " for the well-being of the people. This allows Congress to \_\_\_\_\_ with the times and be more \_\_\_\_\_.
10. There are \_\_\_\_\_ to the powers of Congress.
- The President can \_\_\_\_\_ laws passed by Congress.
- \* The Supreme Court can declare laws passed by Congress \_\_\_\_\_  
or *unconstitutional*.
11. While Congress passes \_\_\_\_\_ laws, the \_\_\_\_\_  
also have important law-making rights of their own.



# Understanding the Supreme Court

1. There are \_\_\_\_\_ justices on the Supreme Court; eight \_\_\_\_\_ Justices and one \_\_\_\_\_ Justice.
2. The Supreme Court is the \_\_\_\_\_ court of law in our nation.
3. The Supreme Court decides whether \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ laws are in keeping with the "true \_\_\_\_\_" of the Constitution.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ laws apply to everyone in the country. \_\_\_\_\_ laws only apply to the people in a particular state.
5. Most cases are settled in \_\_\_\_\_ courts.
6. Supreme Court Justices are given the right to state their opinions \_\_\_\_\_ on any subject, and hold their jobs for \_\_\_\_\_. Their salaries cannot be \_\_\_\_\_.
7. When a Supreme Court Justice retires, resigns, or dies, the \_\_\_\_\_ chooses a new one, but the \_\_\_\_\_ has to approve the person picked.
8. Each part of our government has a job in watching over the other parts. This is known as the system of " \_\_\_\_\_ " and " \_\_\_\_\_."



# How Laws Are Made

1. A proposed law is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In order for a bill to become a law, it must be passed by \_\_\_\_\_  
"houses" of Congress, the \_\_\_\_\_  
and the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Most bills can start in \_\_\_\_\_ house.
4. Once both houses vote in favor of a bill, it is sent to the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. If the president \_\_\_\_\_ the bill, it becomes a \_\_\_\_\_.
6. A vetoed bill can still become a law if \_\_\_\_\_ of the members of  
Congress " \_\_\_\_\_ " the President's veto by voting in favor of it.
7. Citizens can influence what laws are made. They can:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ to their Congressmen.
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ to get certain candidates elected.
  - c. work for \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. join together to form a \_\_\_\_\_.
8. A "lobby" is: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Your Government Needs You!



Look and listen for the answers to the questions below as you view this presentation.

1. An \_\_\_\_\_ is a responsible citizen
2. Citizens have a \_\_\_\_\_ to know about their government and their rights.
3. The first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution are called the \_\_\_\_\_
4. The better \_\_\_\_\_ you are about government, the better able you'll be to help the government do the job it is meant to do.
5. Good citizenship carries \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Being a responsible citizen mean respecting the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of others.
7. A good citizen thinks about what he/she \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the most important ways to be involved and have a \_\_\_\_\_ in government.
9. Good citizens can be involved in government by:
  - o Being active in \_\_\_\_\_ politics,

- Doing \_\_\_\_\_ work,
- Writing \_\_\_\_\_ to officers of the government
- Starting and/or signing \_\_\_\_\_,
- Holding \_\_\_\_\_, or
- Joining a \_\_\_\_\_ group,

10. A good citizen always uses \_\_\_\_\_ means of persuasion and never breaks the law, even if he/she doesn't \_\_\_\_\_!

11. A good government needs citizens who \_\_\_\_\_ and who always \_\_\_\_\_ the law, or work to \_\_\_\_\_ it.