

Program Title

Hanging Around the Three Branches

Course/Grade Level

Government / Middle or High School (can be adapted to Elementary School)

Time Required

4 to 6 50-minute class periods (depending on how much time you give them in class to work as a group)

Goals and Objectives:

Goal:

This lesson will provide students with a foundation and an overview of the three branches of the United States government.

Objectives:

Students will identify basic ideas of the three branches of government.

Students will apply the basic ideas of the three branches of government to the creation of a mobile.

Students will investigate the system of checks and balances in the United States government.

Students will analyze how each branch of government works in theory and in practice.

Evaluation methods

To evaluate student work, there are several options that you may choose:

(a) grade worksheets;

(b) grade mobile by counting number of required components for each branch; or

(c) an assessment.

Materials, supplies, or equipment

* small pieces of paper (I cut regular paper into 8 pieces.) - I would recommend various colors so students can color code each branch

* string or yarn

* scissors

* tape

* single-hole punch

* hangers (I had students bring one in as a homework assignment.)