

Government Powers

Objective(s):

- The students will be able to identify public officials at each level community, state and nation.
- The students will be able to describe different levels of government powers such as local, state, and federal powers.
- The students will be able to classify items provided to them to the correct government powers.

TEKS:

3.9 (A) 3.9(C)

Vocabulary:

- Public official
- Governor
- Mayor
- President
- State power
- Local power
- Federal power

Materials:

A social studies box that is decorated with:

- Poster board
- Cop badges
- Inflatable globe ball
- Envelope
- Drivers license
- Item that represents state university
- Airplane
- Maps

Learning Strategies:

1. Ask the students, "Who here knows what a public official is? Can you name one thing that public officials do? Who can give me an example of a public official of our country? Think of who runs our country."

2. After the students have answered the questions, put up a poster board with the public officials as follows: community, state, and nation. Next, explain to them that a public official is someone who is able to enforce laws whether the individual is elected by the public or appointed to an office.
3. Tell the students that just as there are different public officials for our community, state, and nation, there are also different types of powers assigned to each of the three levels of government: local, state, and federal powers. Explain some of the powers of these three levels of government. For example, the post office would be federal, a driver's license would be part of the state power, and the library would be under a local power.
4. Students will be able to choose an item from the social studies box and identify what level of government power it represents.
5. Conclude the lesson by having a mini discussion on why it is important to know about the above concepts. It is important because students need to know the different levels of government and that they are responsible for different jobs.

Parent/family/community inclusion:

When the students return back home, they can ask their parents if they know who is our mayor, governor, and president. The students can also go home and identify examples of each level of government such as the mail, garbage collection, and a library card.

Academic reinforcement/extension:

Once the students have gained the knowledge about the different types of government powers, they will be able to identify what power of government will be responsible in case of a disaster such as a fire, flood, or storm.



