Civics Tutorials offer targeted instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' understanding of the roles citizens play in the political and governmental systems of the United States. Students engage with the content in an interactive, feedback-rich environment as they progress through standards-aligned modules. By honing their ability to analyze civic life, political practices, and government structures, students build the depth of knowledge and higher-order thinking skills required to demonstrate their mastery when put to the test.

In each module, the Learn It and Try It make complex ideas about the roles of citizens in political and governmental systems accessible through focused content, guided analysis, multi-modal representations, and personalized feedback. The Review It offers a high-impact summary of key concepts and relates those concepts to students' lives. The Test It assesses students' mastery of the module's concepts, providing granular performance data to students and teachers after each attempt. To help students concentrate on the content most relevant to them, unit-level pretests and posttests can quickly identify where students are strong and where they're still learning.

This Tutorial is built to state standards.

Unit 1: Government Basics

- **TYPES OF GOVERNMENT**
  - SS.7.CG.3.1: Analyze the advantages of the United States constitutional republic over other forms of government in safeguarding liberty, freedom and a representative government.
  - SS.7.CG.3.15: Analyze the advantages of capitalism and the free market in the United States over government-controlled economic systems (e.g., socialism and communism) in regard to economic freedom and raising the standard of living for citizens.
  - SS.7.CG.3.1: Analyze the advantages of the United States constitutional republic over other forms of government in safeguarding liberty, freedom and a representative government.
  - SS.7.CG.3.2: Explain the advantages of a federal system of government over other systems in balancing local sovereignty with national unity and protecting against authoritarianism.
- **PRINCIPLES OF CITIZENSHIP**
  - SS.7.CG.2.3: Identify and apply the rights contained in the Bill of Rights and other amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.2.1: Define the term citizen, and explain the constitutional means of becoming a U.S. citizen.
  - SS.7.CG.2.2: Differentiate between obligations and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship, and evaluate their impact on society.
  - SS.7.CG.2.6: Examine the election and voting process at the local, state and national levels.

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- SS.7.CG.1.1: Analyze the influences of ancient Greece, ancient Rome and the Judeo-Christian tradition on Americas constitutional republic.

Unit 2: Creating the U.S. Government

- **FOUNDING IDEAS AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**
  - SS.7.CG.1.4: Analyze how Enlightenment ideas, including Montesquieus view of separation of powers and John Lockes theories related to natural law and Lockes social contract, influenced the Founding.
  - SS.7.CG.1.3: Trace the impact that the Magna Carta, Mayflower Compact, English Bill of Rights and Thomas Paines Common Sense had on colonists views of government.
  - SS.7.CG.1.5: Describe how British policies and responses to colonial concerns led to the writing of the Declaration of Independence.
  - SS.7.CG.1.2: Trace the principles underlying Americas founding ideas on law and government.
  - SS.7.CG.1.6: Analyze the ideas and grievances set forth in the Declaration of Independence.
- **DRAFTING AND RATIFYING THE U.S. CONSTITUTION**
  - SS.7.CG.1.7: Explain how the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation led to the writing of the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.3.14: Explain the purpose and function of the Electoral College in electing the President of the United States.
  - SS.7.CG.1.10: Compare the viewpoints of the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists regarding ratification of the U.S. Constitution and including a bill of rights.

Unit 3: The U.S. Constitution 1

- **ANALYZING THE U.S. CONSTITUTION**
  - SS.7.CG.1.8: Explain the purpose of the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.3.3: Describe the structure and function of the three branches of government established in the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.3.4: Explain the relationship between state and national governments as written in Article IV of the U.S. Constitution and the 10th Amendment.
  - SS.7.CG.1.9: Describe how the U.S. Constitution limits the powers of government through separation of powers, checks and balances, individual rights, rule of law and due process of law.
  - SS.7.CG.1.7: Explain how the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation led to the writing of the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.3.5: Explain the amendment process outlined in Article V of the U.S. Constitution.
- **PRINCIPLES OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION**
  - SS.7.CG.1.2: Trace the principles underlying Americas founding ideas on law and government.
  - SS.7.CG.1.4: Analyze how Enlightenment ideas, including Montesquieus view of separation of powers and John Lockes theories related to natural law and Lockes social contract, influenced the Founding.

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- SS.7.CG.1.3: Trace the impact that the Magna Carta, Mayflower Compact, English Bill of Rights and Thomas Paines Common Sense had on colonists views of government.
- SS.7.CG.1.9: Describe how the U.S. Constitution limits the powers of government through separation of powers, checks and balances, individual rights, rule of law and due process of law.
- SS.7.CG.3.1: Analyze the advantages of the United States constitutional republic over other forms of government in safeguarding liberty, freedom and a representative government.
- SS.7.CG.3.11: Analyze the effects of landmark Supreme Court decisions on law, liberty and the interpretation of the U.S. Constitution.
- SS.7.CG.1.11: Define the rule of law and recognize its influence on the development of legal, political and governmental systems in the United States.

Unit 4: The U.S. Constitution 2

- **AMENDMENTS TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION**
  - SS.7.CG.3.4: Explain the relationship between state and national governments as written in Article IV of the U.S. Constitution and the 10th Amendment.
  - SS.7.CG.2.4: Explain how the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights safeguard individual rights.
  - SS.7.CG.1.9: Describe how the U.S. Constitution limits the powers of government through separation of powers, checks and balances, individual rights, rule of law and due process of law.
  - SS.7.CG.1.11: Define the rule of law and recognize its influence on the development of legal, political and governmental systems in the United States.
  - SS.7.CG.3.5: Explain the amendment process outlined in Article V of the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.2.3: Identify and apply the rights contained in the Bill of Rights and other amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.3.6: Analyze how the 13th, 14th, 15th, 19th, 24th and 26th Amendments broadened participation in the political process.
- **FEDERALISM**
  - SS.7.CG.3.4: Explain the relationship between state and national governments as written in Article IV of the U.S. Constitution and the 10th Amendment.
  - SS.7.CG.3.1: Analyze the advantages of the United States constitutional republic over other forms of government in safeguarding liberty, freedom and a representative government.

Unit 5: Branches of Government

- **THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**
  - SS.7.CG.3.3: Describe the structure and function of the three branches of government established in the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.3.7: Explain the structure, functions and processes of the legislative branch of government.
- **THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

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- SS.7.CG.3.3: Describe the structure and function of the three branches of government established in the U.S. Constitution.
- SS.7.CG.3.8: Explain the structure, functions and processes of the executive branch of government.
- SS.7.CG.3.11: Analyze the effects of landmark Supreme Court decisions on law, liberty and the interpretation of the U.S. Constitution.

- **THE JUDICIAL BRANCH**
  - SS.7.CG.3.9: Explain the structure, functions and processes of the judicial branch of government.
  - SS.7.CG.3.11: Analyze the effects of landmark Supreme Court decisions on law, liberty and the interpretation of the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.3.3: Describe the structure and function of the three branches of government established in the U.S. Constitution.

Unit 6: Legislative and Judicial Processes

- **THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS**
  - SS.7.CG.3.8: Explain the structure, functions and processes of the executive branch of government.
  - SS.7.CG.3.7: Explain the structure, functions and processes of the legislative branch of government.
- **THE U.S. COURT SYSTEM**
  - SS.7.CG.2.4: Explain how the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights safeguard individual rights.
  - SS.7.CG.2.5: Describe the trial process and the role of juries in the administration of justice at the state and federal levels.
  - SS.7.CG.3.9: Explain the structure, functions and processes of the judicial branch of government.
  - SS.7.CG.3.11: Analyze the effects of landmark Supreme Court decisions on law, liberty and the interpretation of the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.3.10: Identify sources and types of law.

Unit 7: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

- **CIVIL LIBERTIES**
  - SS.7.CG.1.9: Describe how the U.S. Constitution limits the powers of government through separation of powers, checks and balances, individual rights, rule of law and due process of law.
  - SS.7.CG.1.2: Trace the principles underlying Americas founding ideas on law and government.
  - SS.7.CG.3.11: Analyze the effects of landmark Supreme Court decisions on law, liberty and the interpretation of the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.2.3: Identify and apply the rights contained in the Bill of Rights and other amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
  - SS.7.CG.2.4: Explain how the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights safeguard individual rights.
- **CIVIL RIGHTS**

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- SS.7.CG.3.11: Analyze the effects of landmark Supreme Court decisions on law, liberty and the interpretation of the U.S. Constitution.
- SS.7.CG.2.3: Identify and apply the rights contained in the Bill of Rights and other amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

Unit 8: Linkage Institutions

- **POLITICAL VIEWS AND POLITICAL PARTIES**
  - SS.7.CG.2.6: Examine the election and voting process at the local, state and national levels.
- **INTEREST GROUPS AND THE MEDIA**
  - SS.7.CG.2.8: Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government.
  - SS.7.CG.2.9: Analyze media and political communications and identify examples of bias, symbolism and propaganda.

Unit 9: Elections and State and Local Governments

- **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**
  - SS.7.CG.2.2: Differentiate between obligations and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship, and evaluate their impact on society.
  - SS.7.CG.3.13: Explain government obligations to its citizens and the services provided at the local, state and national levels.
  - SS.7.CG.3.12: Compare the U.S. and Florida constitutions.
  - SS.7.CG.3.4: Explain the relationship between state and national governments as written in Article IV of the U.S. Constitution and the 10th Amendment.
  - SS.7.CG.2.8: Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government.
  - SS.7.CG.3.7: Explain the structure, functions and processes of the legislative branch of government.
- **ELECTIONS**
  - SS.7.CG.2.6: Examine the election and voting process at the local, state and national levels.
  - SS.7.CG.3.14: Explain the purpose and function of the Electoral College in electing the President of the United States.

Unit 10: Public Policy

- **U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY**
  - SS.7.CG.4.1: Explain the relationship between U.S. foreign and domestic policy.
  - SS.7.CG.2.10: Explain the process for citizens to address a state or local problem by researching public policy alternatives, identifying appropriate government agencies to address the issue and determining a course of action.
- **U.S. FOREIGN POLICY**

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- SS.7.CG.4.2: Describe the United States and citizen participation in international organizations.
- SS.7.CG.4.3: Describe examples of the United States actions and reactions in international conflicts.
- SS.7.CG.4.1: Explain the relationship between U.S. foreign and domestic policy.
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- **THE U.S. ECONOMY**
  - SS.7.CG.3.15: Analyze the advantages of capitalism and the free market in the United States over government-controlled economic systems (e.g., socialism and communism) in regard to economic freedom and raising the standard of living for citizens.

Unit 11: Skills for Social Studies

- **EXAMINING BASIC ECONOMIC CONCEPTS**
  - SS.7.CG.3.15: Analyze the advantages of capitalism and the free market in the United States over government-controlled economic systems (e.g., socialism and communism) in regard to economic freedom and raising the standard of living for citizens.
- **EXAMINING CONTEXT AND BIAS IN POLITICAL COMMUNICATIONS**
  - SS.7.CG.2.9: Analyze media and political communications and identify examples of bias, symbolism and propaganda.

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