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THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:
WHAT IS GOVERNMENT?

Fill in the blanks using the words found in the word bank below!

THE GOVERNMENT

After an election, the political party with the greatest (most) number of elected members is asked to form the Government. The leader of the party with the largest number of elected Members of Provincial Parliament becomes the leader of the provincial government, called the Premier.

The government is responsible for setting priorities and policies that take care of the day-to-day running of the province.

THE OPPOSITION

Opposition parties in parliament serve to keep the government of the day accountable.

The opposition may be made up of one or more political parties. The political party that elects the second-most number of MPPs after the government forms the Official Opposition and their leader becomes the Leader of the Official Opposition.
There are three branches of government in Ontario.

**Draw an arrow to connect each branch of government below to the circle that contains their description.**

- **Legislative**
  - This branch is made up of the 124 elected Members of Provincial Parliament. They have the power to pass, amend, or repeal laws. Judges work for this branch.
  - They work at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

- **Executive**
  - This branch is made up of the Ministers of Cabinet. They can also be called the Executive Council. They are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor on the advice of the Premier.
LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

Fill in the blanks using the words found in the word bank below!

THE FEDERAL LEVEL

The federal parliament is located in __Ottawa__, Canada’s capital city! The federal government is responsible for things that affect Canada as a country, like citizenship, money, and the army. The leader of the federal government is called the __Prime Minister__. Their name is __Justin Trudeau__. 

Word Bank:
- Ottawa
- Prime Minister
- Justin Trudeau
- ten
- three
- Toronto
- Premier
- Doug Ford
- Mayor
- City/Town Hall
THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL

There are ten provinces and three territories in Canada.

Ontario’s parliament, also called the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, is located in Toronto.

The provincial government is responsible for things that affect Ontario as a province, like driver’s licenses, health care, and education. The leader of the provincial government is called the Premier.

Their name is Doug Ford.

THE MUNICIPAL LEVEL

Each city or town has its own government.

The municipal level is responsible for local issues, like local roads, public parks, and local police. The leader of the municipal government is usually called a Mayor and they would work at City/Town Hall.
## ACTIVITY
**WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?**

List each responsibility under the appropriate level of government.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

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### LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

#### FEDERAL
- Army
- Foreign Affairs
- RCMP
- Canada Post
- Citizenship and Immigration
- Criminal Law
- Fisheries

#### PROVINCIAL
- Birth Certificates
- Healthcare
- Lottery
- Tourism
- OPP
- Driver’s Licenses
- Marriage Certificates
- Transportation
- Education
- Provincial Parks

#### MUNICIPAL
- Public Transit
- Garbage Pick-up
- Recycling
- Public Libraries
- Road Signs
- City Parks
- Local Police
- Snow Removal
- Firefighters
ABOUT THE CROWN

CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY

Canada is a constitutional monarchy, which means the Queen—Her majesty Queen Elizabeth II—is Canada’s Head of State. Although all laws in Canada are passed in Her name, the power of governing rests with the Prime Minister or the Premier, not the Queen. The Head of State has no influence over decisions made by the country’s elected officials and does not interfere with the decisions of parliament.

The Governor General and the Lieutenant Governor represent the Queen in Canada and the Provinces and act on her behalf.
Draw arrows to connect each person below to their name and official title above.

Her Majesty
Queen Elizabeth II, Canada’s Head of State

Her Excellency
the Right Honourable
Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada

The Honourable
Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

Her Majesty
Queen Elizabeth II, Canada’s Head of State

Her Excellency
the Right Honourable
Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada

The Honourable
Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario
Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) are elected by the people of Ontario to represent them at the provincial parliament. MPPs work in the Legislative Chamber, the Legislative Building in Toronto, and in their communities near the people they represent.

MPPs have many roles and responsibilities.

**Cross out** the tasks below that are **NOT** part of a Member of Provincial Parliament’s job:

- discuss and debate proposed bills
- represent the people from their community at the provincial parliament
- rescue lots of animals
- help people in their community
- work in Toronto
- have a swimming pool at their house for everyone in the neighbourhood
- attend special events in their community
- work in their community
WHO IS YOUR MPP?

Visit the Elections Ontario website at [www.elections.on.ca](http://www.elections.on.ca) and enter your postal code to find out the name of your riding and MPP!
VOTING AND POLITICAL PARTIES

VOTING IN ONTARIO
To be elected as an MPP a candidate must win the most votes. Whoever has the most votes wins and will become the MPP for the riding, even if they receive less than 50% of that riding’s total votes. Only Canadian citizens who live in the Province of Ontario and who are over the age of 18 can vote in a Provincial election.

POLITICAL PARTIES
After a provincial election, the political party with the most MPPs will become the government. The party with the second highest number of MPPs is called the official opposition. In Ontario, we have four different political parties that have MPPs working in the provincial parliament. Each political party has their own party leader.
POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS IN ONTARIO
AS OF JANUARY 2020

Fill in each leader’s political party below using the word bank on the right.

Doug Ford
Andrea Horwath
Steven Del Duca
Mike Schreiner

The Progressive Conservative Party
The New Democratic Party
The Liberal Party
The Green Party

WHO ARE MY REPRESENTATIVES?

1. What is the name of your provincial riding? ________________________________

2. Who is the MPP for your riding? ________________________________

3. What political party does your MPP belong to? ________________________________

4. Is your MPP a member of the government or the opposition? ________________________________

5. Who is the MP for your riding? ________________________________

6. Who is the City Councilor for your area? ________________________________
MPPs and various House Officers sit in the Legislative Chamber when the House is in session. This is where MPPs work to change or create new laws in Ontario.

Label the roles in the Legislative Chamber using the options from the word bank below.

1. Speaker
2. Government
3. Clerk and Table Clerks
4. Opposition
5. Legislative Mace
6. Hansard Reporters
7. Sergeant-at-Arms
8. Pages
PARLIAMENTARY PLAYERS

I am an expert in the rules of Parliament! I also am responsible for counting the votes in the Chamber.

I record what the MPPs say while in the chamber. You can read this record online once I am finished!

I am in charge of security in the Chamber and throughout the whole building. I am also the guardian of the Mace.

We deliver messages to and from the MPPs while in the Chamber. We also bring them glasses of water!

I give MPPs permission to speak in the Chamber. I will not participate in the debates and I can only vote if there is a tie.

Draw arrows to connect each Parliamentary Player to their description.

THE SPEAKER

THE CLERK

THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

LEGISLATIVE PAGES

HANSARD REPORTER
The process of passing bills into law is one of the main tasks of a Legislative Assembly, and it takes up a major portion of the Assembly’s time. All bills must pass through several stages of the legislative process before a bill can become a law.

The stages of a bill are all scrambled! Put these stages in the correct order by filling in each stage’s number in the circles below.
A law is also called an Act.