CONTENTS

What is Government? ........ 2
Levels of Government ........ 4
About the Crown ............. 8
Members of Provincial Parliament .................. 10
Voting and Political Parties ...... 12
The Legislative Chamber ....... 14
Parliamentary Players .......... 15
How a Bill becomes a Law .... 16
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 _______________. The leader of the party with the largest number of elected _______________ __ _______________ _______________

becomes the leader of the provincial government, called the _______________.

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 _______________ _______________.

The political party that elects the second-most number of MPPs after the government forms the Official Opposition and their leader becomes the _______________ __ _______________ __ _______________ _______________.
BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

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.**

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

2. **Judicial**
   - This branch is the system of courts that interprets and applies the law. Judges work for this branch.

3. **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 _____________, 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 _____________ _____________.

Their name is _____________ _____________.

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

There are ___ provinces and ___ territories in Canada.

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

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 ____________.

Their name is ____________ ____________.

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 ____________ and they would work at ____________ ____________.
List each responsibility under the appropriate level of government.

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Army
- Foreign Affairs
- Public Transit
- Birth Certificates
- Garbage Pick-up
- RCMP
- Canada Post
- Healthcare
- Recycling
- Citizenship and Immigration
- Public Libraries
- Road Signs
- City Parks
- Local Police
- Snow Removal
- Criminal Law
- Lottery
- Tourism
- Driver’s Licenses
- Marriage Certificates
- Transportation
- Education
- Money
- Firefighters
- Fisheries
- Provincial Parks
- OPP
LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

FEDERAL

PROVINCIAL

MUNICIPAL
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

The Honourable
Elizabeth Dowdeswell,
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

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

Her Majesty
Queen Elizabeth II,
Canada’s Head of State
MEMBERS OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

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 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.

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

Doug Ford
Andrea Horwath
Steven Del Duca
Mike Schreiner

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?
THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER

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.

Speaker
Government
Opposition
Clerk and Table Clerks
Legislative Mace
Hansard Reporters
Sergeant-at-Arms
Pages
PARLIAMENTARY PLAYERS

Draw arrows to connect each Parliamentary Player to their description.

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 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.

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

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

THE SPEAKER

THE CLERK

THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

HANSARD REPORTER

STUDENT WORKBOOK
HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

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.