

Legislative Branch

1. What are the two parts of the legislative branch? **The House of Representatives and the Senate**
2. What is the primary responsibility of both houses of the legislature? **Both houses introduce and vote on bills and resolutions, offer amendments to bills, and serve on committees.**
3. How do the two houses differ in...
 - a. Term length: **House has 2 year terms, Senate has 4 year terms; though there are no limits for both houses**
 - b. Number of constituents represented: **Representatives: 37,000 Utahns
Senators: 95,000 Utahns**
 - c. Responsibilities: **The Senate is the upper house and has additional responsibilities like confirming Supreme Court nominations**
4. How many Senators are in the Senate? **29**
5. How many representatives are in the Utah House of Representatives? **75**
6. How often/when does the legislature meet? **The annual Utah Legislative Session begins on the 4th Monday of January and ends 45 calendar days later. If needed, the Governor can call special meetings of the legislature that can last up to 30 days.**
7. What are the chief officers of each body called? **The Senate elects a President of the Senate and the House elects a Speaker of the House**
8. How is Utah's legislature different than most other states? **Utah has a citizen legislature, which means that the legislators only serve part-time and hold 'regular' jobs the rest of the year**

5th Grade Info Sheet

Executive Branch

1. What represents the executive branch in Utah State government? **The Office of the Governor**
2. Who is the Chief Executive of the State of Utah? **The Governor**
3. What does the Governor do? **Works to promote policies to develop Utah's economy, education, and standard of living**
4. What are the Governor's specific roles? **The Governor serves as the political and ceremonial head of the State as well as the Commander-in-Chief of the Utah National Guard. S/he must sign bills into law, let them sit until they go into effect without a signature, or veto them. The Governor also gives the "State of the State" address, appoints Supreme Court Justices and other officials to temporarily fill vacancies, and can call special sessions of the legislature to meet.**
5. How long does the Governor serve? **4 year terms that are unlimited**
6. Where does the Governor live? **In the Governor's Mansion**
7. Who assists the Governor? **The Lieutenant Governor**
8. What special role does the Lieutenant Governor have? **Overseer of state elections**

Judicial Branch

1. What represents the judicial branch in Utah state government? **Utah Supreme Court**
2. What does the Supreme Court do? **It is the "Court of Last Resort." Once a lower court has ruled on a case, an attorney can *appeal* the case to a higher court—the Supreme Court is the highest court in Utah. It also has *jurisdiction* over all state constitutional and elections issues.**
3. What is the special name for judges that sit on the Supreme Court? **Justices**
4. How many Justices does Utah have? **5**
5. How long do Justices serve? **10 year terms, but they are also renewable**
6. Who chooses the Justices? **Justices are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate**
7. Who leads the Supreme Court? **The Chief Justice**
8. How is the Chief Justice chosen? **Internal election by the justices**
9. How long does the Chief Justice serve? **4 year terms**
10. Where does the Supreme Court meet? **They usually meet in the Matheson Courthouse downtown, but also have a ceremonial chamber in the Utah State Capitol (where they originally met from 1916 to 1998)**

Important terms to know:
Constitutional republic
Separation of powers
Checks and balances