Our country’s Founding Fathers, the writers of the U.S. Constitution, wanted to create a strong national government. They also wanted to make sure that one person or group did not have too much power. That’s why they separated the government’s powers into three branches: Legislative, Executive and Judicial.

### Legislative
- Members: Congress and House of Representatives
- The members of Congress — 100 senators and 435 representatives.
- The Vice President of the U.S. is considered the head of the Senate.
- The most important duty of the legislative branch is to make laws, write bills, then vote on whether or not the bills should become laws.
- Collecting and spending money from taxes.
- Declare war.

### Executive
- Members: The President, Vice President and Cabinet members
- The President:
  - Signs bills into laws.
  - Vetoes or rejects bills.
  - Appoint Supreme Court justices.
  - Meets with foreign leaders and negotiates treaties.
  - Is the commander-in-chief of the U.S. armed forces.
  - The cabinet gives advice to the President about important matters.

### Judicial
- Members: 9 Supreme Court Justices
- Members are appointed by the President and serve life-long terms.
- The Supreme Court is the head of the judicial branch and is the highest court in the country.
- Its decisions are final, and no other court can overrule those decisions.
- Decides if laws agree with the Constitution.
- The Supreme Court can declare laws unconstitutional.

1. Why were the 3 branches of Government established? 
2. What is the most important duty of the legislative branch? 
3. Who signs bills into laws? 
4. Who gives advice to the President about important matters? 
5. Which branch decides if laws agree with the Constitution?
Our country’s Founding Fathers, the writers of the U.S. Constitution, wanted to create a strong national government. They also wanted to make sure that one person or group did not have too much power. That’s why they separated the government’s powers into three branches: Legislative, Executive and Judicial.

### Legislative
**Members:** Congress and House of Representatives
- The members of Congress —100 senators and 435 representatives.
- The Vice President of the U.S. is considered the head of the Senate.
- The most important duty of the legislative branch is to make laws, write bills, then vote on whether or not the bills should become laws.
- Collecting and spending money from taxes.
- Declare war.

### Executive
**Members:** The President, Vice President and Cabinet members
- The President:
  - Signs bills into laws.
  - Vetoes or rejects bills.
  - Appoint Supreme Court justices.
  - Meets with foreign leaders and negotiates treaties.
  - Is the commander-in-chief of the U.S. armed forces.
- The cabinet gives advice to the President about important matters.

### Judicial
**Members:** 9 Supreme Court Justices
- Members are appointed by the President and serve life-long terms.
- The Supreme Court is the head of the judicial branch and is the highest court in the country.
- Its decisions are final, and no other court can overrule those decisions.
- Decides if laws agree with the Constitution.
- The Supreme Court can declare laws unconstitutional.

1. **Why were the 3 branches of Government established?**
   - So no one person or group had too much power
2. **What is the most important duty of the legislative branch?**
   - To make laws
3. **Who signs bills into laws?**
   - The President
4. **Who gives advice to the President about important matters?**
   - The Cabinet
5. **Which branch decides if laws agree with the Constitution?**
   - Judicial