

# Michigan Studies



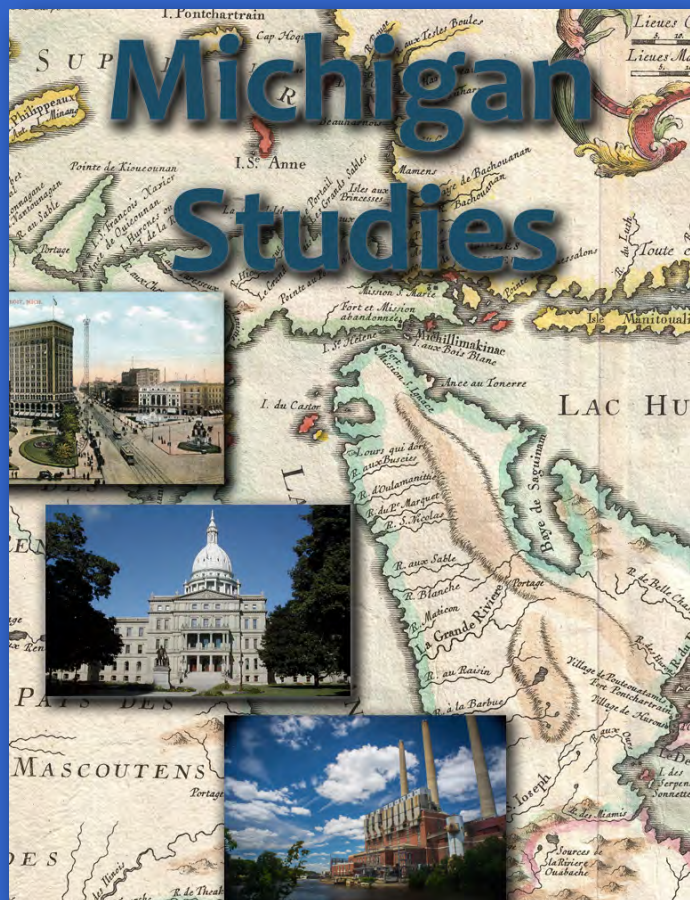
McAnn Bradford, Sandra Freeland, Elizabeth Kastl,  
Joy Kooyer, Marilyn McCauley, Andrea Raven,  
Susan Welch







# **MICHIGAN** **OPEN BOOK PROJECT**



This is version 1.1 of this resource, released in September of 2016.

Information on the latest version and updates are available on the project homepage: <http://textbooks.wmisd.org/dashboard.html>



# MICHIGAN OPEN BOOK PROJECT

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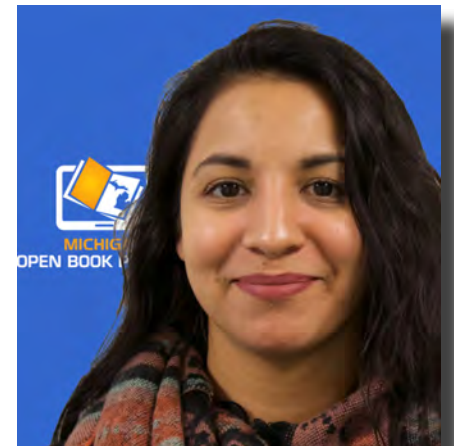


### Jannan Cotto

#### Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians

##### Education Department

An advocate of social and eco-justice, Jannan Cotto, Education Director for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, has worked in Indigenous Education for 9 years in both urban and reservation communities with the goal of contributing to the educational sovereignty, healing, and well-being of Indigenous people. She graduated from Northeastern Illinois University with a degree in inter-disciplinary studies with an emphasis in English and Education and a minor in Psychology. She is currently studying in an online Master's program at Eastern Michigan University studying Social Foundations of Education with a concentration in eco-justice. She serves as the current Chair of the Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors and serves on the Board of Regents for Bay Mills Community College. One of the focuses of her work includes developing Indigenous land-based education for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous learners that emphasizes Indigenous perspectives, encourages relationships with land, and inspires critical thinking and critical action in our global community. She is currently working on curriculum development through part-



### McAnn Bradford

#### Kaleva Norman Dickson Elementary

##### Kaleva Normon Dickson Schools

McAnn teaches third grade all subjects at KND Elementary in Onekema Michigan.

### Sandy Freeland

#### McBain Elementary School

##### McBain Rural Agricultural School

Sandy is a full time teacher at McBain Elementary School in McBain Michigan. She has taught Kindergarten and Third Grade during her time there. In addition to classroom teaching she's also provided technology professional development for the district. Outside of the school day she can be found learning from others in Twitter chats, participating in groups on Facebook, and working on developing a coding club for her school.



## **Beth Kastl**

### **Floyd M. Jewett Elementary School**

*Mesick Consolidated Schools*

Beth is an elementary teacher from Floyd M. Jewett Elementary school, where she has worked in a variety of grade levels including first and third grade.

## **Joy Kooyer**

### **West K-7**

*Holland Public Schools*

Joy received her Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Wesleyan University in Early Childhood Education and her Master's degree in the Art of Teaching from Marygrove College. She has always taught third grade and thinks it the best grade ever. She is the chairperson for the National Geographic Bee. Joy has been Holland Sentinel's Teacher Of The Year and been chosen for WGVU's, "Cool Teacher" award. She enjoys traveling. Her goal is to see all of the 50 state capitals and visit all of the MLB parks. Joy finds great pleasure in reading, scrapbooking and spending time with her husband, Jason and three children, Julia, 12, Harrison, 9 and Jameson, 2.



## **Marilyn McCauley**

### **Surline Elementary**

*West Branch Rose City Schools*

After attending a wonderful 2 year experience with the amazing professors at Kirtland Community College, I continued to work toward a Bachelors of Science Degree with the wonderful professors at Central Michigan University, also obtaining a teaching certificate. My focused subjects at CMU were language arts and social studies. Michigan State University, with its outstanding professionals, is where I enjoyed working for my Masters Degree in Education. Learning is a continuous journey I treasure through our expert COOR District and Surline Elementary instructors. I also enjoy independent studies I have done



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### **Dorothy Perry**

#### **Academic Services Coordinator**

*Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians*

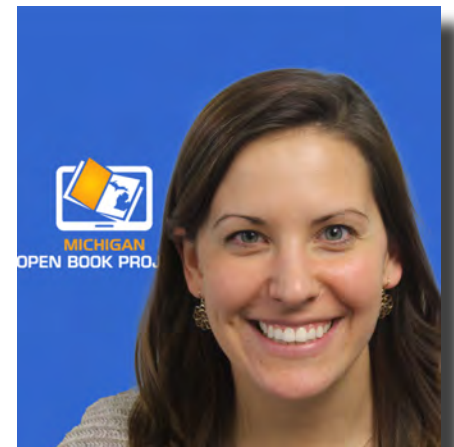
Coming from a long line of Educators, Dorothy Perry has continued to follow in this direction with passion and commitment. The culmination of 25 years in the field of Education includes, Early Childhood Education with a focus on the whole child through self-led discovery and learning. Continuing as a Family/School Liaison and supporting parents with infant/toddler development. For the past 14 years, Dorothy has concentrated on building Indigenous Education programs for youth and community, including developing Land-based cur-

### **Andrea Raven**

#### **Foster Elementary School**

*Ludington Area Public Schools*

Andrea Raven currently teaches 3rd grade at Foster Elementary in Ludington, Michigan. She earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education and Spanish from Albion College. While at Albion, she studied abroad in Spain. It was a positive experience that allowed her to immerse in the culture and education system. She is completing her seventh year of teaching and has taught both 5th and 3rd grades. Andrea serves as the Social Studies Department Chair at her school. She has earned her Master's Degree in Curriculum Instruction from Grand Valley State University. Outside of the education world,



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### **Alison Simon**

#### **Curriculum Specialist/Grant Writer**

*Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians*

Biography Forthcoming!





### **Susan Welch**

#### **Fenton Area Public Schools**

#### **State Road Elementary**

Susan Welch currently teaches 4th grade at State Road Elementary in Fenton, Michigan. She has earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from Central Michigan University and a Master's Degree in the Art of Teaching from Marygrove College with additional graduate work done at Arizona State University. While at CMU, Susan traveled to Perth in Western Australia to study their use of integration to deliver instruction and meet the curriculum standards. Upon graduation, she started her teaching career in Arizona teaching in the Casa Grande and Kyrene school districts. During this time, Susan taught in a fully inclusive elementary classroom with students with many diverse learning needs including monolingual and bilingual Spanish speaking students, as well as various physical and mental challenges. She also was able to learn about the many different Native American cultures represented within her schools. Susan has taught both 3rd and 4th grade in the Fenton Area Public Schools for the past 11 years and also serves as

### **Carol Bacak-Egbo**

#### **Editor**

*Carol Egbo has more than 40 years of experience in education as a teacher, curriculum developer, staff development specialist, and social studies consultant. She is currently a special lecturer in the Teacher Development and Educational Studies Department at Oakland University, and a contract consultant for the Oakland Intermediate School District. She has been project director for two federal Teaching American History Grants, and was the primary curriculum designer and writer for grades 2-6 of the Michigan Citizenship Collaborative Curriculum (MC3) Project. She has extensive experience in presenting professional development for teachers including summer institutes at University of California-Los Angeles, institutes for the Michigan Department of Education, teacher networks, national and state conferences, teacher seminars sponsored by Michigan State University, Saginaw Valley State University, and Oakland University. She is the recipient of numerous awards including*



### **Carol Gersmehl**

#### **Cartographic Consultant**

*Carol Gersmehl is a map maker and teacher trainer. She worked in a census-data research office, then taught cartography and Geographic Information Systems for 17 years at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. In 2005, she became co-director of the New York Center for Geographic Learning and co-coordinator of the New York Geographic Alliance. While in New York, she also taught Advanced Placement World Geography and helped advise teachers at a K-12 school in Queens. She still flies back occasionally to work with schools in New York, but now she is cartographic advisor, educational materials author, and teacher-trainer for the Michigan Geographic Alliance.*



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## Chapter 3

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# What Does Michigan's Government Do?

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1. Why do people need governments?
2. Why do we need local governments and a state government?
3. How is our state government organized?
4. What are the rights and responsibilities of citizens?



# Why do People Need Governments?

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Why do people need governments?
2. Why do we need local governments and a state government?
3. How is our state government organized?
4. What are the rights and responsibilities of citizens?

## TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE

**civics:** The study of government and the role people play in government

**government:** a system of laws and leaders that helps keeps people safe and protects their rights

**rights:** things a person is entitled to have or to do

**local Government:** the government of a community

**state government:** the government of one of the 50 states

**public services:** things that a government does for people

You have learned that there are different areas of social studies. You have learned about geography. You have also learned about economics. In this chapter you will learn about civics. You will discover that **civics** is the study of government. It is also the study of the role people play in government. But, wait! What is government?



Work with a partner and make a list of words that come to mind when you think of the word 'government.'

### Interactive 3.1 Government Words



Click here to see some 'Government Words'. Circle any word in your list that matches one of the words in the Interactive



## What is Government?

**Government** is a system of laws and leaders that helps keep people safe and protects their rights. You probably learned about your local government in second grade. This is the government of your community. In this chapter you will learn about your state government. But first, let's look at the planet of Herbertia. Let's see what kind of government it has.



Michigan's State Capitol in Lansing, Michigan

Source: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Michigan\\_state\\_capitol.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Michigan_state_capitol.jpg)

### Interactive 3.2 Herbertia and Freedomia



*Click here to learn about the government on the planet of Herbertia.*

What did you think about the decision of the Freedomians to have no government on their planet? Was it a good idea? Why or why not? Without a government there would be no laws. What problems might this cause? Without a government no one would



be in charge. What problems might this cause? Would people feel safe on Freedomia? Why or why not?

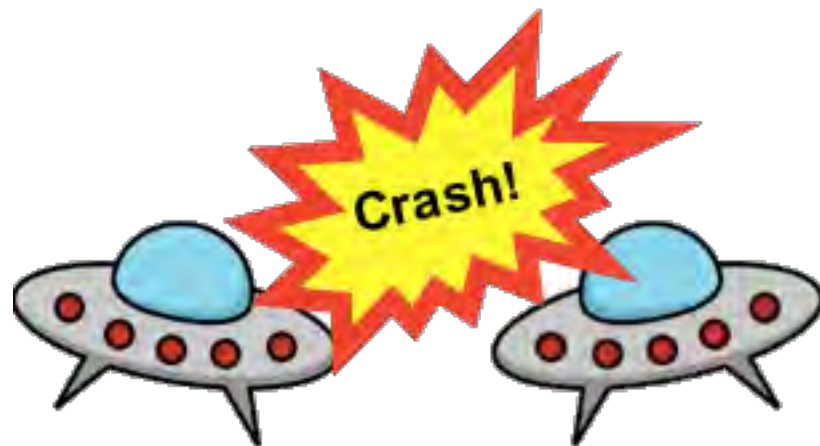
### What Happened on the Planet of Freedomia?

**No  
Government  
Allowed!**

As you probably guessed things did not go well on Freedomia without a government.

Since there were no laws people did just what they wanted to do. They flew as fast as they wanted in their little spaceships. Therefore, they were always flying into each other. If they liked something another Freedomian, had they just took it.

When there was a shortage of food on Freedomia they couldn't find a way to work together to solve the problem.



**Writing Assignment:** Write a short paragraph explaining why or why not you think Freedomia should have a government. Give two reasons for your answer.

### What Do Governments Do?

The Freedomians seem to need a government! People on Earth discovered long ago that their communities needed a government. They also discovered that their states and their countries needed a government, too.

Governments keep places safe. They do this by making laws and enforcing laws. Governments provide public services. These are things governments do for people like fixing roads. Governments help solve problems. Governments

### Interactive 3.3 Purposes of Government



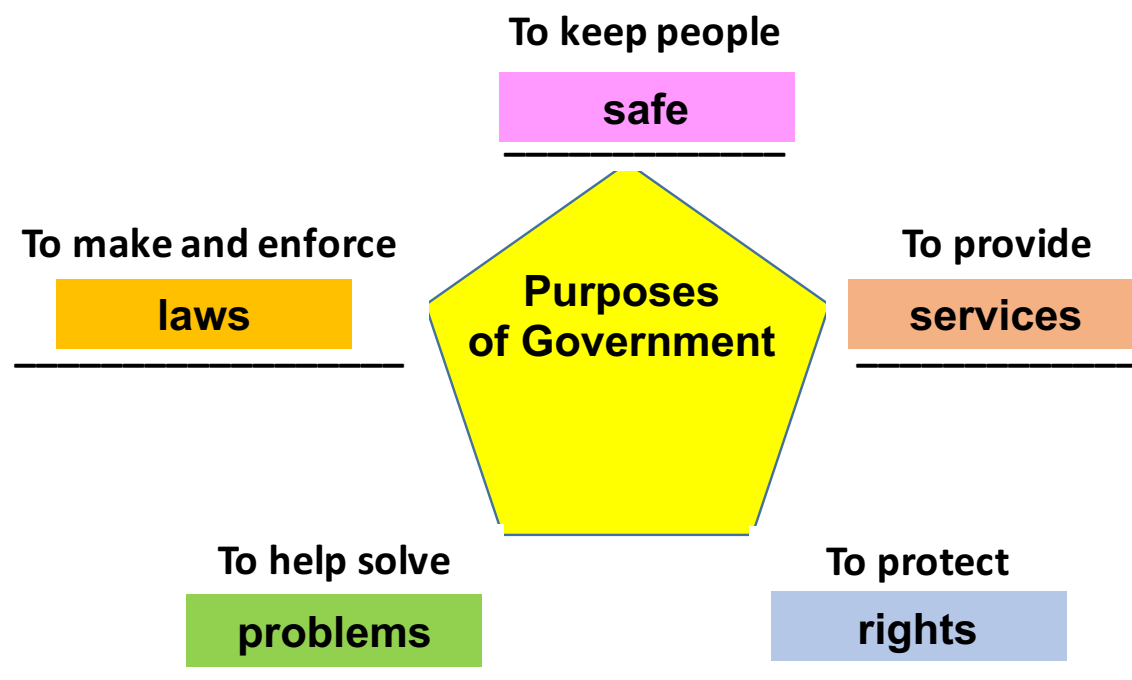
*Click here to review the purposes of government*



also protect people's rights. These are the purposes of government. These are the reasons people need governments.

## How Does the Government of Michigan Carry Out the Purposes of Government?

Local, or community, governments have police departments. The state government of Michigan also has a police department. Think about the purposes of government. What purposes of government do the Michigan State Police help carry out?



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/ae/2006\\_Michigan\\_State\\_Police\\_Dodge\\_Charger\\_1.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/ae/2006_Michigan_State_Police_Dodge_Charger_1.jpg)

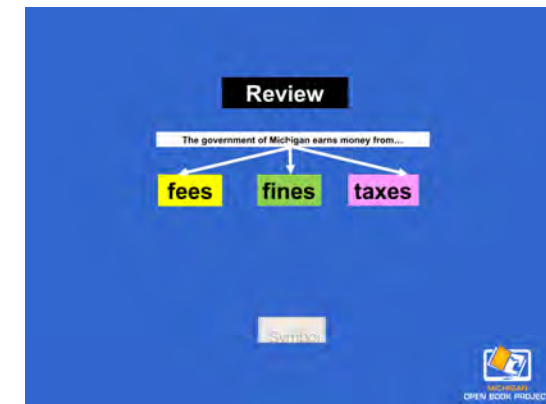
If you guessed all five purposes you are right! The Michigan State Police help carry out all the purposes of government. Here is why:

- The State Police help keep people safe.
- The State Police help enforce laws.
- The State Police are a service the state government provides.
- The State Police can help solve problems in the state such as too many people speeding on roads.
- The State Police try to protect people's rights. For example, they can investigate when someone's property has been stolen.

### **How Does the Government of Michigan Pay for the Services it Provides?**

State police officers have to be paid. State police cars have to be bought. How does the government of Michigan pay for these things? Where does it get the money? Click the Interactive to find out!

### **Interactive 3.4** Paying for Services



*Click here to see how the government of Michigan earns money so it can provide services.*

## **PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER**

Civics is the study of government and the role people play in government. Communities, all fifty states and our country all have governments. People need governments for many reasons. Governments keep people safe. Governments make and enforce laws. Governments provide services. Governments help solve problems. Governments help protect people's rights.



# Why Do We Need Local Governments and a State Government?

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Why do people need governments?
2. Why do we need local governments and a state government?
3. How is our state government organized?
4. What are the rights and responsibilities of citizens?

## TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE

**levels of government:** local, state and national governments

**national government:** the government of our country

You have learned that we need governments for many reasons. Governments keep people safe. Governments make and enforce laws. Governments provide services. Governments help solve problems. Governments help protect people's **rights**. But why do we need to have a local government in our community and a state government? Couldn't we have just a local government? Or maybe we could have just a state government? Read on to find out why we need both!



What do you think? Do we need a local government in our community and a state government? Why or why not?

## Levels of Government

In our country we have three **levels of government**. One level is our local, or community, government. One level is our state of Michigan government. One level is our **national government**. That is the government of our country. Each level helps people solve problems. But are the problems the same or different? Click the Interactive to find out.

### Interactive 3.5 Levels of Government



*Click here to see learn more about the levels of government*



## Local and State Services

You learned in the Interactive that different levels of government often solve different kinds of problems. But do they provide different services? Think about police protection. What level provides that? You learned about the Michigan State Police in the last section. Therefore, you know that the state government provides police protection. What about your community? Does it have a police department?





[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/ae/2006\\_Michigan\\_State\\_Police\\_Dodge\\_Charger\\_1.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/ae/2006_Michigan_State_Police_Dodge_Charger_1.jpg)

Most communities have a police department. So, both levels provide police protection.

But how might it be different? Your local police department is in charge of traffic on your community roads. The Michigan State Police are in charge of traffic on state roads. You can see now why we need both levels! There are lots of roads that connect communities but are not inside a community. Without the Michigan State Police who would keep people safe on these roads?



[http://image.mlive.com/home/mlive-media/width620/img/news/detroit\\_impact/photo/15583619-mmmain.jpg](http://image.mlive.com/home/mlive-media/width620/img/news/detroit_impact/photo/15583619-mmmain.jpg)

Some services are provided just by local governments. Fire departments are an example. Other services are provided just by our state government. Taking care of the Mackinac Bridge would be an example.

## Local and State Laws

There are over 2000 communities in Michigan. Each one has its own local government. Each one makes its



own local laws. The state government of Michigan also makes laws. That's a lot of laws! Wouldn't it be simpler if the state government of Michigan made all the laws?



What do you think? Should the state government of Michigan make all the laws? Why or why not?

Detroit is a very big city in Michigan with lots of cars and people. It has many parking lots. It has many places to park along streets. It has places where you aren't supposed to park. For these reasons Detroit has many parking laws.



Detroit, Michigan. Image source: Shutterstock



Boon Michigan, Township Hall. Image source: Dave Johnson

Boon is a tiny town in Michigan. It only has about 700 people. Do you think Boon has a lot of parking laws? Probably not! It doesn't need them.

Imagine if we dropped all our community laws. Then, we let the state government of Michigan make all the laws. If the state government made a lot of parking laws, Boon wouldn't need them. What If the state government didn't make any parking laws? There would be a lot of parking problems in Detroit!.



Because communities can be very different they often need different kinds of laws. That is why communities need to make their own laws.

But, wait! Why not let just local governments make laws? Why do we need state laws too?



What do you think? Do we need state laws? Why or why not?

Think about adoption. To protect children and families there are many adoption laws. What level of government makes these laws? If you guessed the state government you are right! People believe adoption laws should be the same anywhere in Michigan. If communities made adoption laws they might be different. So it looks like we need local laws and state laws!

## PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

You have learned that we need local governments and our state government! Although both levels solve problems, the problems can be different. Local governments solve community problems. Our Michigan state government solves state problems. Both levels also make laws. We need local laws because our communities can be so different. We need state laws because some laws need to be the same everywhere in the state. In fourth grade you will learn about our national government. You will learn about the kinds of laws it makes. You will also learn about the kinds of problems it solves.

### Interactive 3.6 What Level should Make the Laws



*What level should make these laws? Click here to find out.*

# What is Representative Government?

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Why do people need governments?
2. Why do we need local governments and a state government?
3. How is our state government organized?
4. What are the rights and responsibilities of citizens?

## TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE

**representative government:** people elect representatives to make laws for them and be their leaders

**elect:** to choose someone by voting

**republic:** a government where people hold the power of government and choose leaders to make laws and decisions for them

You have learned that we need local governments and our state government. Now it is time to learn more about our state government! But first, let's go back to the planet of Freedomia

## Interactive 3.7 Freedomia



*Review the story of Freedomia [here!](#)*





## A Government for Freedomia!

The Freedomians decided they needed a government. But they did not want a government like the one they had on the planet of Herbertia. King Herbert was in charge of that government. He made the laws. He made the decisions. Nobody else had a voice in the government. Nobody else had any power.

The Freedomians decided that all the adults on the planet of Freedomia would become the government! Together they would have the power to make the laws. Together they would have the power to make decisions. Herbertia had a government with one king. Freedomia had a government with four thousand Freedomians!



Do you think the government of Freedomia will work? Why or why not?

## Problems with the Freedomian Government

All four thousand adult Freedomians met to try and make some laws. They had to bring their children with them. That added another four thousand to the meeting. They had to meet outside because they didn't have a room big enough to hold everybody. They quickly ran out of chairs. Some people had to sit on the ground. Some people had to stand up. They were all squished together trying to hear each other. Babies were crying. People began to shout at each other. It started to rain! The government was not working! They had to come up with another plan.



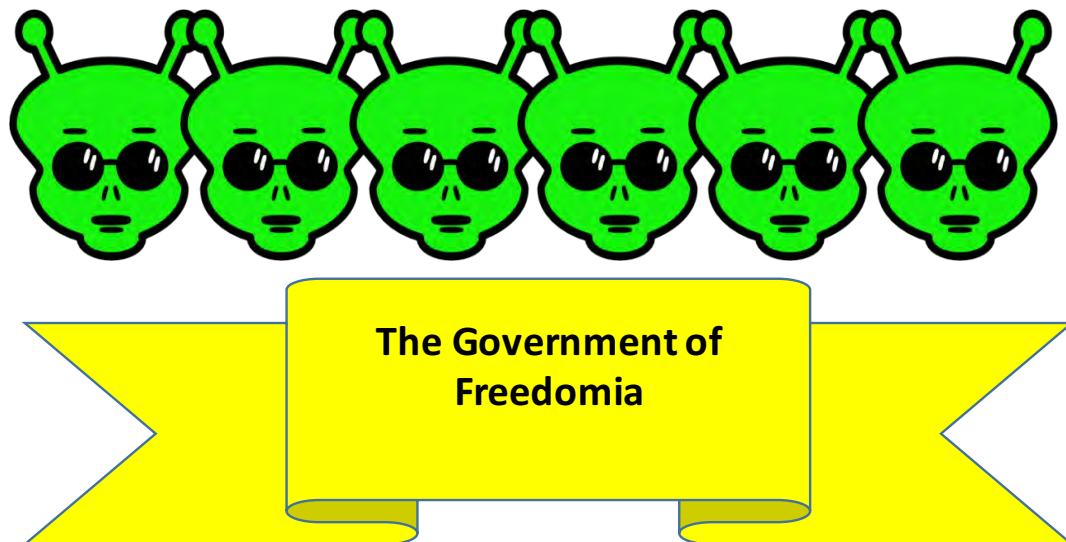
Find two partners and work together to come up with another plan for a Freedomian government. Write your plan down and be ready to share it with other

What was your plan for the Freedomian government?  
What did the Freedomians do? What kind of  
government did they try next? Click the Interactive to  
find out!

### Interactive 3.8 The Freedomian Plan for Government



*Click here to learn about the  
Freedomian Plan for Government.*



The Freedomians chose six people to be the  
government. They gave them the power to make the

laws and the decisions. What do you think of their  
plan?

## Representative Government

In our country we are a lot like the Freedomians. We  
like to have a voice in government. We believe people  
should have the power of government. But we have a  
similar problem. There are too many of us in our  
communities to become our local government. There  
are way too many of us to become our state of  
Michigan government. There are way, way too many of  
us to become the national government of our country.  
So we choose leaders just like the Freedomians did.  
They speak for us in government. They  
represent us. When people elect  
representatives to make laws for them  
and be their leaders it is called  
**representative government.** We **elect**  
these representatives by voting. Click the  
Interactive to see how this works.

### Interactive 3.9 Representative Government



*Click here to see  
learn more about the  
levels of government*





“... and to the Republic for which it stands.”

You have probably heard this phrase before! It comes from the

Pledge of Allegiance. A **republic** is a government where people hold the power of government. They choose leaders to make laws and decisions for them. It is based on the idea of representative government. Our country is a republic! All fifty state governments are representative governments. They are part of our republic. You’ll learn a lot more about our republic in fourth grade!

## **PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER**

In our country we believe people should have the power of government. However, there are too many of us to be the government. Therefore, we elect representatives to make our laws and decisions. Some of the representatives we elect become our state

government. How do these representatives make laws and decisions for our state? Read on to find out!

## Section 4

# How is Our State Government Organized into Three Branches?

### QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Why do people need governments?
2. Why do we need local governments and a state government?
3. How is our state government organized?
4. What are the rights and responsibilities of citizens?

### TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE

**branches of government:** the different sections of government

**legislative branch:** the branch of government that makes laws

**executive branch:** the branch of government that enforces laws

**governor:** the leader of a state

**judicial branch:** the branch of government that decides what laws mean

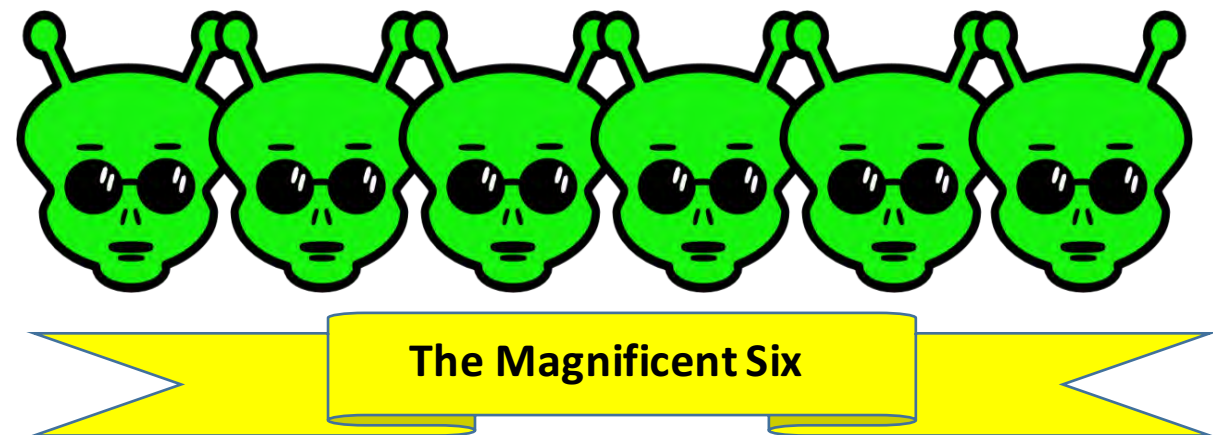
**court:** the place where a trial is held

**Michigan Supreme Court:** the highest court in Michigan

**constitution:** a written plan for government

You have learned that our state government is based on the idea of representative government. We elect representatives to make our laws. They also make our decisions. But how is our state government organized? How does it work? In this section you'll find out!

**But first... Back to Freedomia!**



**Interactive 3.10**  
Trouble in Freedomia



*Click here to read about problems in Freedomia.*



The six people elected to be the government of Freedomia started to work. They decided to call themselves the “Magnificent Six” They made their first law. Then, the problems began!

### Problems with the Magnificent Six

Who is making the laws in Freedomia? Who is enforcing the laws? Who is deciding what the laws mean? Who is running the court? It seems that the Magnificent Six are doing everything! That’s a lot of power for six Freedomians to have. Before the king had too much power. Now a small group of six has too much power. Maybe just electing representatives isn’t enough!

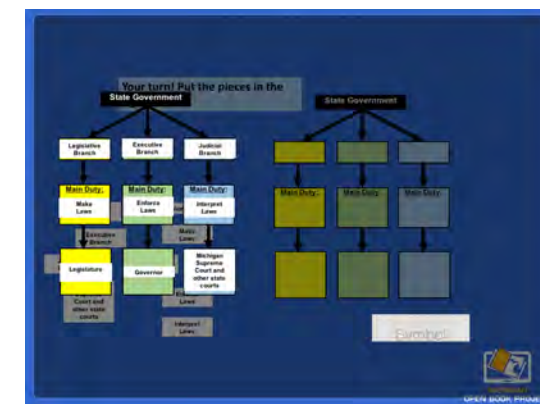


How could Freedomia solve the problem they are having with the Magnificent Six?

### Three Branches of Government

In Michigan we don’t have the problem the Freedomians had. We decided to elect representatives but we did something more. We divided the representatives into **three branches of government**. This means our state government has three different sections. Each one has its own powers. That way no one person or one group has too much power. Click on the Interactive to see how this works!

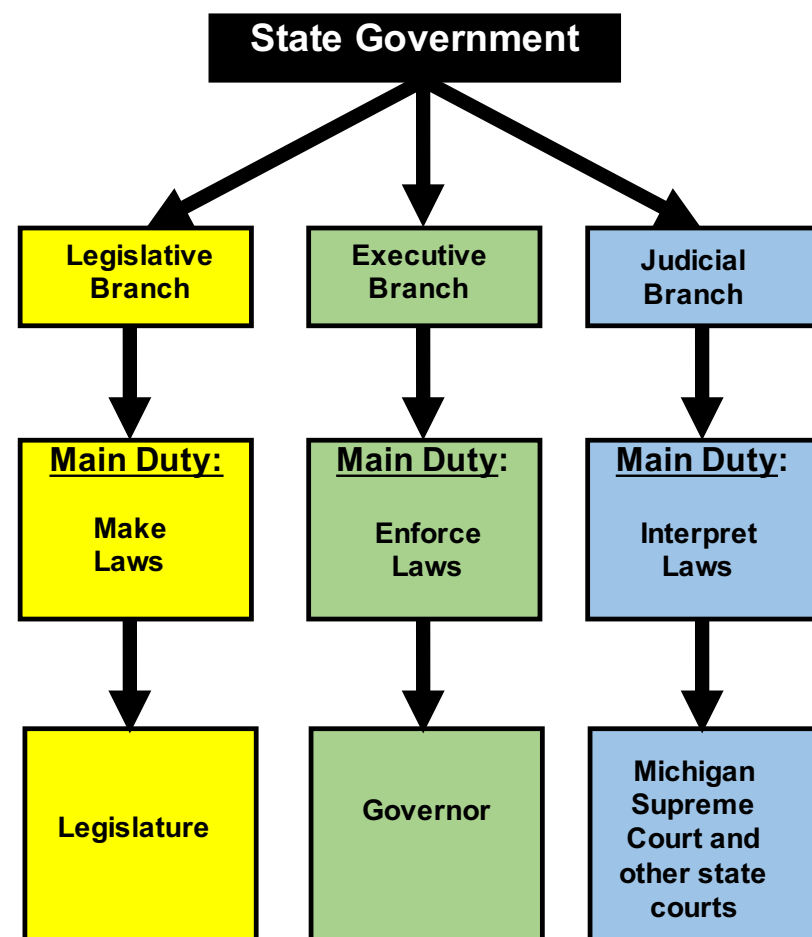
#### Interactive 3.11 Three Branches



*Click here to learn about the three branches of our state government*

## The Legislative Branch

You've learned that **the Legislative Branch** of our state government makes the laws. This is a very important power. That is why the Legislative Branch is made up of many people. They are all part of the Michigan Legislature. It meets in our state capital city of Lansing.



The Michigan State Capitol Building where the Legislature meets

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Michigan\\_state\\_capitol.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Michigan_state_capitol.jpg)



## The Executive Branch

You've learned that **the Executive Branch** of our state government enforces the laws. This branch is headed by our governor. We elect a **governor** every four years. The governor is helped by a lieutenant governor and many other people. Because this branch is in charge of enforcing laws the Michigan State Police department is a part of this branch.



The Michigan Hall of Justice where the Michigan Supreme Court Meets

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8b/Michigan\\_Supreme\\_Court%2C\\_night.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8b/Michigan_Supreme_Court%2C_night.jpg)

they mean. This branch is made up of many **courts**. Our highest court is called **the Michigan Supreme Court**.

## The Judicial Branch

You've learned that **the Judicial Branch** of our state government interprets the laws. This means the branch decides on what laws mean. Think back to Freedomia. Remember how long and confusing their law was. Some Michigan laws are long and confusing also. The Judicial Branch helps us understand what

The Judicial Branch does more than interpret laws. It also has two more important jobs. Click on the Interactive to find out what they are!

### Interactive 3.12 The Judicial Branch



*Click here to learn more about the Judicial Branch*

## Meet a Michigander: Judge Michael Warren

I have been a lawyer since 1992 and a judge since 2002. Lawyers learn the law and help others to follow it. Lawyers also help to make sure that people are treated fairly under the law. They also help to make sure that justice is done when someone or an organization believes that they have been hurt. In court, lawyers help people (their “clients”) argue their side of the case before the judge and jury.



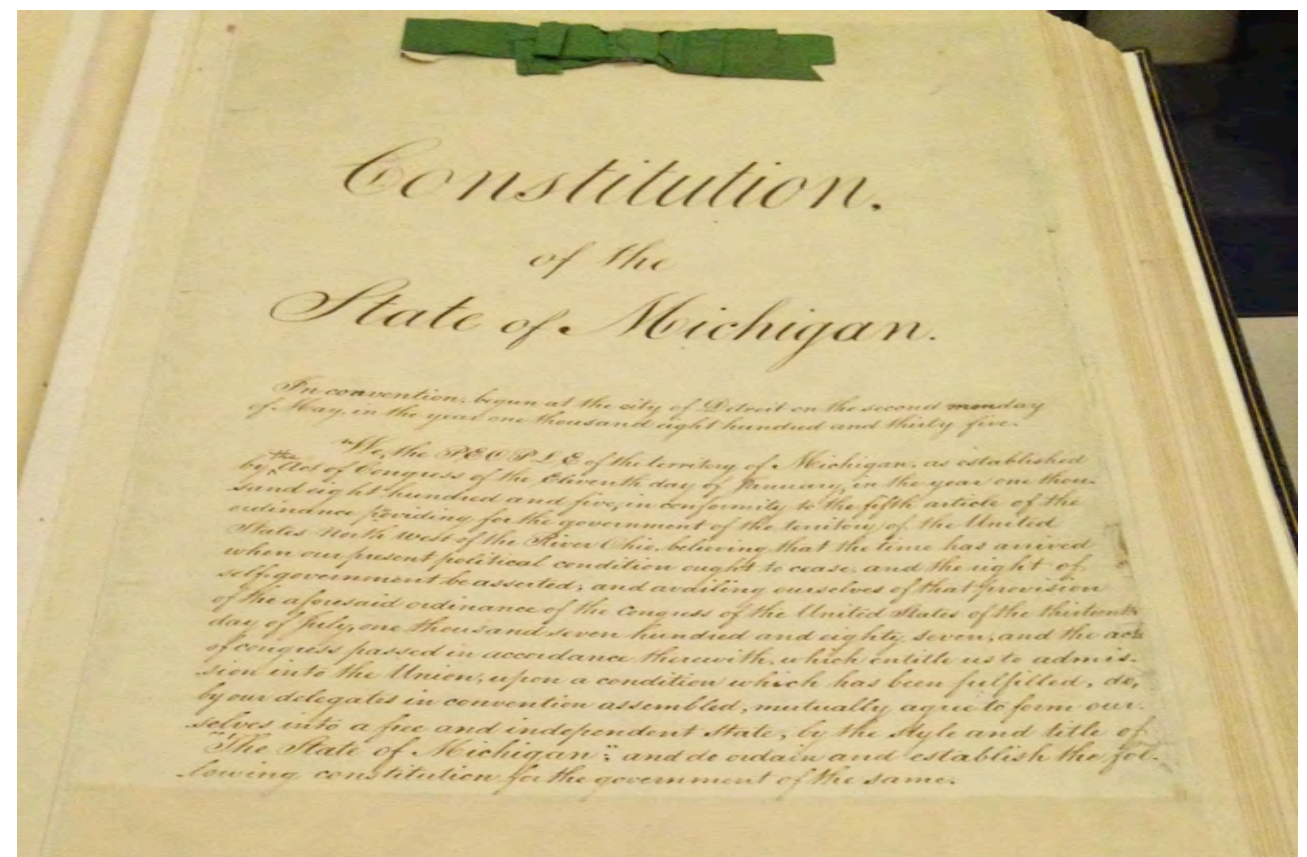
As a judge, my job is to figure out the law that applies to the case. I also have to make sure that the law is followed in the courtroom. When there is a jury, I have to decide what happened and who wins based on the law I instruct them to follow. If there is no jury, I decide the case alone. If a criminal defendant is convicted of a crime, my job is to sentence the defendant to a fair sentence. In addition, I perform weddings and adoptions.

I also volunteer my time with schools, as a board member. The board oversees the principals and teachers. I help the schools be as good as they can, and in particular, I focus on the curriculum students learn. I am very concerned that students learn about the Constitution and history so they can be ready to protect our freedom when they grow up.

My daughter Leah, who was 10 years old at the time, and I started Patriot Week, which helps renew the spirit of America. We do that through celebrating our Declaration of Independence, our Founding Fathers and great patriots, documents and speeches, and flags from our history. You can learn more about Patriot Week (which runs from September 11-September 17) at [PatriotWeek.org](http://PatriotWeek.org).

## Our Michigan Constitution

When people create a plan for government do you think they should write it down? Why or why not? We decided it was a good idea to write down our plan for the three branches. Therefore long ago in 1835 we wrote a Michigan Constitution. A **constitution** is a written plan for government. You may have learned that our country has a constitution also! You'll learn a lot about that plan for government in fourth grade.



[http://mediad.publicbroadcasting.net/p/wmuk/files/styles/x\\_large/public/201507/wiki-MIConstitution.jpg](http://mediad.publicbroadcasting.net/p/wmuk/files/styles/x_large/public/201507/wiki-MIConstitution.jpg)



You may be surprised to learn that we have actually written four different Michigan Constitutions. As times have changed we have added some things to our Michigan Constitution. We have also dropped some things from our Michigan Constitution. But the plan of three branches has always stayed the same.

## **PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER**

Our state government has three branches. The main power of the Legislative Branch is to make laws. The main power of the Executive Branch is to enforce laws. The main power of the Judicial Branch is to interpret laws. Our state government was organized in this way to keep one person or even one small group from having too much power.

# What are Our Rights and Responsibilities as Citizens?

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Why do people need governments?
2. Why do we need local governments and a state government?
3. How is our state government organized?
4. What are the rights and responsibilities of citizens?

## TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE

**rights:** things a person is entitled to have or to do

**freedom of speech:** the right to say what you want and to talk about your beliefs, ideas, and feelings

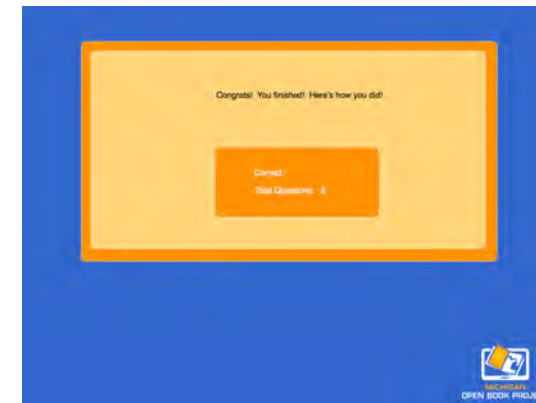
**freedom of religion:** the right to have any religious beliefs you want or no religious beliefs at all

**civic responsibilities:** things citizens are supposed to do

**jury:** a group of people who help decide a case in court

You have learned a lot about our state government. You have learned why people need a state government. You have learned how our local governments are different from our state government. You have learned how our state government is divided into three branches. Before you go on click on the Interactive to ‘show what you know!’”

## Interactive 3.13 Government Quiz



*Show what you've learned so far!*



## What are Some of Our Important Rights?

In the first section you learned that one of the purposes of government is to protect the rights of people. **Rights** are things a person is entitled to have or to do. For example, you have the right to say what you want. You have the right to talk about your beliefs, ideas, and feelings. This right is called **freedom of speech**. You also have the right to have any religious beliefs you want or no religious beliefs at all. This right is called **freedom of religion**. You have other rights like the right to own property. There is also a right that you have that Freedomians do not seem to have! Click the Interactive to find out which right.

### Interactive 3.14 Freedomians and Rights



*What right do Freedomians seem to lack?*



Image source: SHUTTERSTOCK: Image ID:121503349

Unlike the poor Freedomian in the Interactive you have the right to a fair trial. This means you have a chance to give your side of the story. Or, if you want, a lawyer can speak for you. It also means that there is often a jury not just a judge. A jury is a group of people who help decide a case in court. They are people chosen right from your community.

The Right to Vote

You have learned that the kind of government we have is a republic. A republic is a government where people hold the power of government. They elect leaders and give them the power to make laws and decisions for them. You learned that this is called representative government. Because of the kind of government we have one of your most important rights is the right to vote.



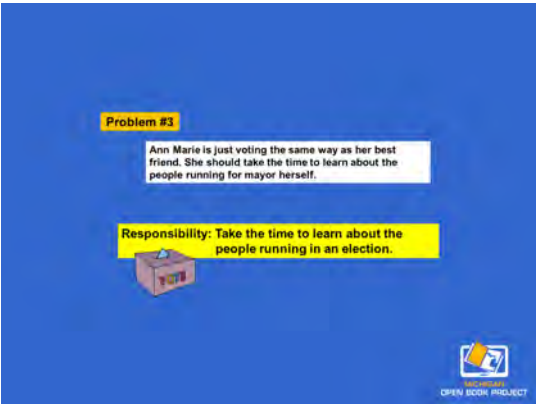
Why do you think the right to vote is so important?

Voting is the way we choose our leaders. It is the way we have a voice in our government. But voting comes with a civic responsibility. A **civic responsibility** is something citizens are supposed to do. The right to vote comes with the responsibility to vote. But is that

enough??? Do you just have to show up and vote? Make a chart like the one below. Then, click the interactive to learn about more of the responsibilities that come with the right to vote.

	What’s the Problem?
1	
2	
3	

Interactive 3.15  
Responsibilities and the Right To Vote



Click here to learn more about the right to vote



In the Interactive you learned that it is not enough to just vote. People have the responsibility to learn about the people who are running in an election. People have the responsibility to vote for the person they think will do the best job.

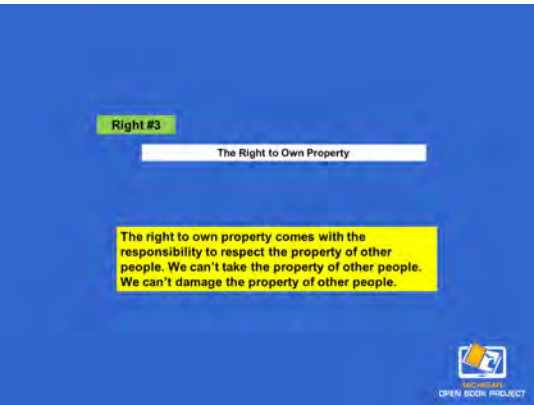
**Rights Come with Responsibilities**

The right to vote is not the only right that comes with responsibilities. All rights come with responsibilities! Think about the right to a fair trial. What civic responsibility comes with that right? The responsibility to pick up litter in front of the courthouse? That’s a nice thing to do but it doesn’t have anything to do with the right to a fair trial! Because you have the right to a fair trial, you have the responsibility to serve on a **jury** if you asked to do so. That means you might have to miss work. That means you might miss a baseball game. But if you have the right to a fair trial then you have the responsibility to serve on a jury if you are asked.

Make a chart like the one below. Then, click the interactive to learn about more of the responsibilities that come with your rights.

Right	Responsibility
1	
2	
3	

**Interactive 3.16** Rights and Responsibilities



*Click here to learn more about rights and responsibilities*

## PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

One important purpose of government is to protect the rights of people. These rights include freedom of speech and freedom of religion. They also include the right to vote and the right to a fair trial. All these rights come with civic responsibilities. If you have a right, you have a responsibility!

### And now... Back to Freedomia!

Freedomia needs help creating a plan for a new government. Find 2 partners and come up with a plan. Make sure to answer these questions:



- Who will make the laws?
- Who will enforce the laws?
- Who will interpret the laws?
- What are three laws Freedomia will have?
- What are three rights Freedomians will have?