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The American Government Structure

This Project

In this project, your students will research their national and local government representatives. They will take this information and place it into an Organizational Chart in a *PowerPoint* slide show.

Computer Skills

- Organizational Chart

Before Beginning

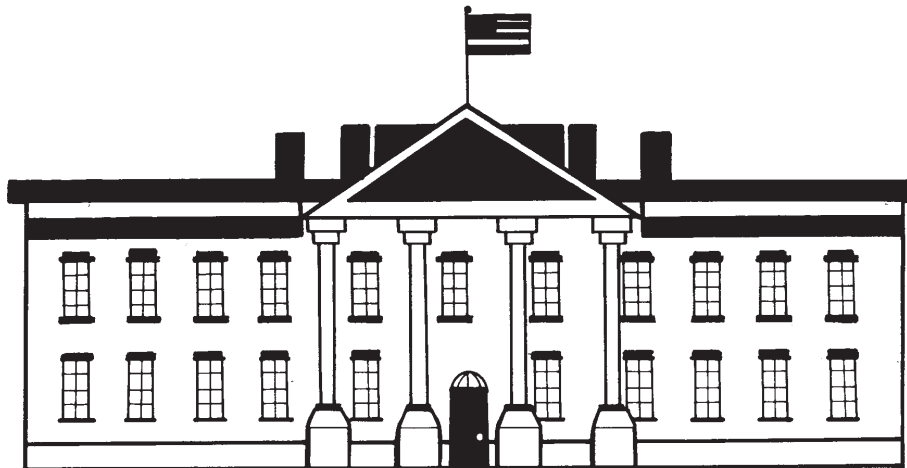
- Review with students the structure of the American government. Remind them that in our form of democratic government, the people are the ones who are most in charge of the country.
- Review the three branches of government (Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Branches) that all work together equally to help the country run smoothly.
- Tell students that they will be finding out who represents them in the various branches of the government.
- Have them complete the Student Planning Page on page 56 about who fills the offices in the national government. Students can complete the work sheet with teacher assistance, parent interviews, or Web searches. Some good sites for researching local and national representatives are:

Contacting the Congress
<http://www.visi.com/juan/congress/>

White House for Kids
<http://www.whitehousekids.gov>

Oyez, Oyez, Oyez (Supreme Court)
<http://www.oyez.org>

- Show students how to locate the template for this project.



The American Government Structure (cont.)

Quick Steps

- Open the (*Govern*) template.
- Double-click on the **Organization Chart**.
- Click on the People box at the top of the chart and enter your name where directed.
- Click on the President box and include the current president's name under the title.
- Click on the Vice President box and include the name of the current Vice President under the title.
- Choose the **Subordinate** icon and click on the Senate box. Add the name of one of the senators from your state.
- Choose the **Co-worker** icon and click on the name of your first senator. Add the name of the second senator from your state.
- Choose the **Subordinate** icon and click on the House of Representatives box. Add the name of the representative from your district.
- Choose the **Subordinate** icon and click on the Judicial Branch box. List the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the list the 8 other justices as Co-workers.
- Update the Organization Chart on the slide.
- Save your slide and print it.
- Fill in the subsequent slides with specific information about each branch of government.

