

**GRADE: 9**

**ELD STANDARD: 5-Social Studies EXAMPLE TOPIC: Three Branches of Government Poster**

**CONNECTION:**

***MA State Frameworks:***

***USI.11*** Describe the purpose and functions of government. (H, C)

***USI.13*** Explain why the United States government is classified as a democratic government. (H, C)

***USI.14*** Explain the characteristics of American democracy, including the concepts of popular sovereignty and constitutional government, which includes representative institutions, federalism, separation of powers, shared powers, checks and balances, and individual rights. (H, C)

***USI.21*** Describe how decisions are made in a democracy, including the role of legislatures, courts, executives, and the public.

***Common Core Frameworks:***

[**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.4**](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RH/9-10/4/) Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social science.

[**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.7**](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RH/9-10/7/) Integrate quantitative or technical analysis (e.g., charts, research data) with qualitative analysis in print or digital text.

**EXAMPLE CONTEXT FOR LANGUAGE USE:** Group Project about the three branches of government, during a formative assessment in the U.S. Constitution Unit.

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| **COGNITIVE FUNCTION: APPLY their knowledge of the concept: “separation of powers,” by illustrating the three branches of government and the different responsibilities of each branch.** | | | | | | |
| **DOMAIN: WRITING** | **Level 1**  **Entering** | **Level 2**  **Emerging** | **Level 3**  **Developing** | **Level 4**  **Expanding** | **Level 5**  **Bridging** | **Level 6 - Reaching** |
| Construct a poster *(in a small group)* that accurately depicts the three branches of government, by providing at least one relevant image for each branch, listing at least two responsibilities for each branch, and clearly labeling each branch in a colorful presentation | Construct a poster *(in a small group)* that accurately depicts the three branches of government, by providing at least two images for each branch, listing at least two responsibilities for each branch, and clearly labeling each branch in a colorful presentation | Construct a poster *(in a small group)* that accurately depicts the three branches of government, by providing at least two images for each branch, listing at least three responsibilities for each branch, and clearly labeling each branch in a colorful and creative presentation | Construct a poster *(with a partner)* that accurately depicts the three branches of government, by providing at least two images for each branch, listing three important responsibilities for each branch, showing the connections between all branches, and clearly labeling each branch in a colorful and creative presentation | Construct a poster *(independently or with a partner)* that accurately depicts the three branches of government, by providing at least two images for each branch, listing the three most important responsibilities of each branch, showing the connections between all branches, and clearly labeling each branch in a colorful and creative presentation |
| **TOPIC-RELATED LANGUAGE:**  U.S. Constitution, separation of powers, checks and balances, federalism, executive branch, legislative branch, judicial branch, government, legislation, delegates, representatives, legal/illegal, laws, Congress, Senate, House of Representatives, Supreme Court, judge/justice, the White House, etc. | | | | | | |