

Why Do We Have Government?

Study Guide



Vocabulary

Community: a place where people live, work, and play

Citizens: people who vote, obey the rules and laws, and contribute to society

Rules: what people must or must not do

Laws: important rules written and carried out by the government

Government: a group of people who make rules and laws, carry out rules and laws, and decide if rules and laws have been broken



Property: things that belong to someone or things that someone owns

Rights: Freedoms we are entitled to from birth

Information

- The government protects the rights and property of individuals.
- The basic purposes of the government are to make laws, carry out laws, and decide if laws have been broken
- We have rules and laws to keep us safe and protect our rights and property. Rules and laws let people know how they should act or behave.
 - Examples:
 - Listen to your parents. Rule
 - Stop at stop signs. Law
 - Do not litter. Law
 - Be nice to your brother. Rule



Governments exist at the **local**, **state**, and **national** level.

- The local level governs our community in Loudoun County
- The state level governs the state of Virginia in Richmond, VA.
- The national level governs the United States in Washington D.C.

