



PORTS

Parks Online Resources for Teachers and Students

Glossary of Legislative Terms

Assemblymen	representatives of the voters, a member of a legislative assembly
Bill	an idea for a new law, or a change or addition to an existing law
Capital	the city that is the government headquarters of a state
Capitol	the building where leaders of government meet to make laws
Citizen	a member of a town, city, state, or country who owes loyalty to the government and is entitled to its protection
Committee	a group of legislators who study the bills
Constitution	a document describing the governing principles of a state or nation
Cooperative	working together, doing things with others together
Debate	an argument and discussion about a rule, law or idea using intelligence and reasoning to explain the reasons for voting for or against this idea
Government	an organization that makes laws and keeps order
Governor	the head of the executive branch at the state level
Etiquette	rules people follow governing socially acceptable behavior
Executive	A person who has responsibility, being in charge of laws or people
Institution	an organization founded and united for a specific purpose
Judicial	a part of government, responsible for enforcing laws
Legislation	the making of rules or laws
Legislative	group that makes laws
Legislature	a body of representatives of the voters invested with the power to make or repeal laws
Political	relating to government, how government or its representatives act or the reasoning they follow
Professional	an occupation, a job, career
Process	something going on, a series of actions, the way things work
Rule	tells us what we should or should not do
Senator	a group of legislators who serve the people who elected them to make laws
Session	the two-year period during which all introduced legislation must be acted upon before the next session begins
Stadium	a large structure for open-air sports where people can sit and watch events
State Law	a rule that all people in California must follow
Vote	making an official choice a formal expression of opinion used to reach a decision about selecting an individual to represent you or in favor or against a law, rule or idea