



Key Stage 1

Understanding 3 Branches of the State

Lesson Plan

Lesson Plan - Key Stage 1

UNDERSTANDING THE 3 BRANCHES OF THE STATE

Objectives

By the end of the session, students would be able to:

- Understand the nature of the government in Maldives with the three branches of State.
- Recognise the importance of the separation of powers.

Curriculum Link

Social Studies Curriculum Key stage 1, Strand 5: Active Citizenship, sub-strand: The Government
AC 3.2: Demonstrates an understanding of the nature of governments, and the fundamental ideals of government of the Maldives
(Grade 3) AC 3.2.c. Identifies the three branches of the State.

Success Criteria

Students are able to:

- State the 3 branches of the State.
- Identify and sort out the given roles according to the branch.
- Explain the reason why separation of powers is important

Setting or Resources required

- Copy of the Constitution (a digital version can be downloaded from the Majlis website)
- Factsheet

Procedure

Introduction (15 minutes)

Introduce the topic by asking students what they know or remember about the Constitution.

Explain how the Constitution governs the rules of the country to allow a smooth and fair running of the country. Explain that the Constitution guides people in powerful positions by stating their roles and powers so that everybody is clear about it.

Using the copy of the Constitution, show students how different chapters are divided. Refer to the chapters on the 3 branches of the State. Explain that the Constitution lays down the powers of the State to 3 branches. OR can carry out a virtual tour to show the three branches of State. Now ask them if they know what powers they are.

Pause at the idea and then show students 3 pictures;

1. The President's Office and/or a meeting of the President with the Cabinet Ministers.
2. The People's Majlis and/or a meeting of the Parliament
3. The Supreme Court of Maldives and/or a hearing at the Court.

Ask students which office among them has the most power in their opinion and why. Explain the 3 branches of State (Legislature, Executive and Judiciary), each of their powers and how they all check and balance each other. (refer to Factsheet)

Activity (20 minutes)

Assign 3 different areas of the classroom (paste a picture or write name) for the 3 branches of the State.

Tell the students that you will be reading out some important roles carried out by different branches of the State. Students need to listen to the roles and decide which branch has the power to carry out the role read out. Students must move to the respective area of the class designated for the branch that they think is the right answer.

After every move, give a brief explanation of how the role is carried out.

Roles to read out:

- Amending or changing the Constitution to include new laws (Legislature)
- Approval of the annual budget proposed by Finance Minister (Legislature)
- Holding of public referendums on issues of public importance (Legislature)
- The judges in the court help solve problems when people don't agree with the law. They look at the rules and decide what should happen in each situation (Judiciary)
- Appointing the Chief of Justice, and Judges of the Supreme Court (after consulting the judicial Service Commission and Parliament's confirmation) (Executive)
- Changing laws, if it does not conflict with any Islamic principles (Legislature)
- Selecting officials as Cabinet Ministers (Executive)
- Removing Cabinet members and other officials from their Office (Executive)
- Creating important government policies and sharing them with relevant government offices (Executive)
- The judges help everyone understand what the rules mean so that they are used fairly and in the same way. (Judiciary)

Closure (5 minutes)

Assign 3 different areas of the classroom (paste a picture or write name) for the 3 branches of the State.

End the discussion by stating that each branch is equally important and responsible for the smooth and successful running of the country