

# Middle School

**Civics Standards** 6.CIV

- 1 Summarize the principles and purposes of government as stated in the Preamble to the United States Constitution. (E) 6.CIV.1**

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- 2 Identify and explain essential ideas of constitutional government, which include limited government; rule of law; due process of law; separated and shared powers; checks and balances; federalism; popular sovereignty; republicanism; representative government; and individual rights to life, liberty, and property; and freedom of conscience and religion. (E) 6.CIV.2**

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- 3 Explain the concept of a separation of powers and how and why these powers are distributed, shared, and limited in the constitutional government of the United States. (E) 6.CIV.3**

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- 4 Describe and give examples of individual rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. (E) Examples: The right to associate with whomever one pleases; the right to practice the religion of one's choice; the right to speak freely, and criticize the government; the right to due process; and the right to be protected from unreasonable search and seizure; when those rights could cause conflict or disagreement. 6.CIV.4**

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- 5 Explain the major purposes of the Indiana Constitution, as stated in the Preamble. 6.CIV.5**

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- 6 Describe individual rights held under Article I of the Indiana Constitution, such as freedom of speech and freedom of religion. 6.CIV.6**

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- 7 Examine ways that state and national government affects the everyday lives of people in the United States. (E) 6.CIV.7**

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- 8 Describe the primary and general election process for local, state, and national offices, including those used to select congressional and presidential office holders. (E) 6.CIV.8**

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- 9 Identify and explain the duties of and selection process for local and state government officials who make, implement, and enforce laws. 6.CIV.9**

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- 10 Explain that the United States has three levels of government (local, state, and national), and that each level has special duties and responsibilities. 6.CIV.10**

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- 11** Identify the three branches of the United States government and explain the functions of each. (E). Examples: Separation of powers, shared powers, and checks and balances involving the legislative (law making), executive (law enforcing), and judicial (law interpreting) branches of government. 6.CIV.11
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- 12** Identify and explain the major responsibilities of the legislative (Article 4), executive (Article 5), and judicial branches (Article 7) of state government as written in the Indiana Constitution. 6.CIV.12
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- 13** Explain the role citizens have in making decisions and rules within the community, state, and nation. • Examples: Participating in local and regional activities, voting in elections, running for office, and voicing opinions in a positive way. 6.CIV.13
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- 14** Examine ways by which citizens may effectively voice opinions, monitor government, and bring about change in government, including voting and participation in the election process. 6.CIV.14
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- 15** Use a variety of informational resources to identify and evaluate contemporary issues that involve civic responsibility, individual rights, and the common good. Examples: Responsible use of the internet, smoking in public places, payment of property taxes, development of highways, and housing on historic lands. 6.CIV.15
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- 16** Recognize and explain the relationship between the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in the United States. (E) 6.CIV.16
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- 17** Explain ways that citizens can participate in the election process (e.g., political parties, campaigns, elections) at the national, state, and local levels 6.CIV.17