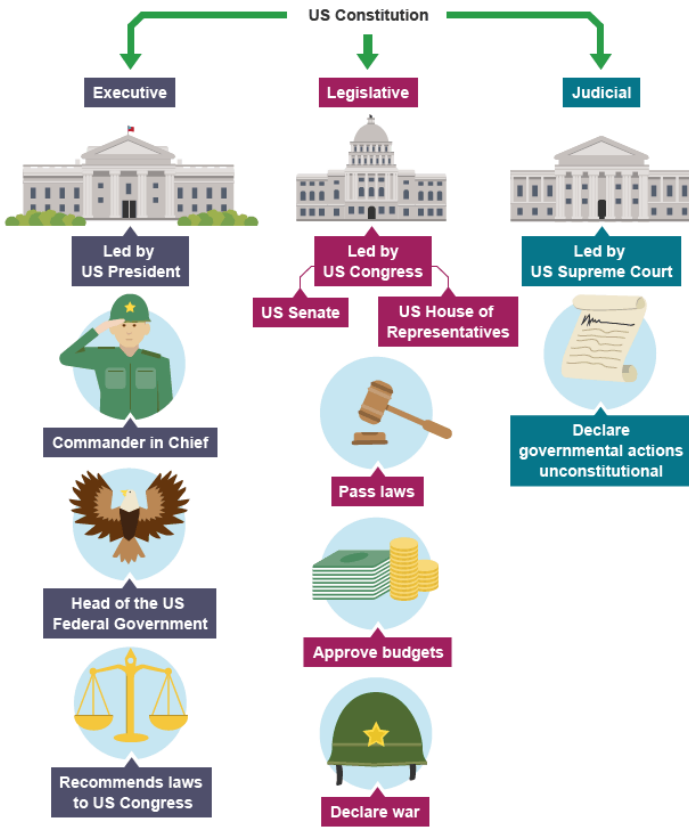


GROUPWORK – FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Read the following documents and prepare both a **poster** AND an **oral presentation** about the Federal Government
- Also **prepare 5 questions** to ask to your classmates to make sure they listened and understood what you explained.

Guidelines :

- describe the organization of the Federal Government. How has this organization been defined ?
- Explain the rôle of each branch, the persons who embody them and the places where they exert their power.



The **executive branch** is the office of the president. The role of the president is to oversee the running of the country and suggest new laws to improve the USA.

The **legislative branch** is the law making part of the federal government.

- Representatives from all 50 states meet at Congress (in Washington, D.C.)
- Congress is split into two houses: the **House of Representatives** (the lower chamber) and the **Senate** (the upper chamber)
- Unlike the president, members of the House of Representatives and the Senate can remain in power for as long as they continue to be elected
- The Senate comprises of 100 elected members. Each state – regardless of geographical size or population – returns two Senators to Washington, D.C.
- Each senator is elected on a six year term. One-third of the Senate are elected every two years
- All 435 members of the House of Representatives are elected on a two year term and serve the people of the congressional district they represent

The **judiciary** is the Supreme Court

- The **Supreme Court** is the highest court in the USA
- Americans can appeal to it if they feel their constitutional rights have been denied
- It has the power to assess laws
- It consists of nine Supreme Court Justices
- Unlike the other branches of the federal government, Supreme Court Justices are not elected

