



Name _____

Legislative Branch and Census Webquest - 2019

Let's begin by looking at photos of the inside of the House and Senate chambers.

Begin your web quest by going to our social studies webpage and click the tab for the Legislative Branch Webquest. The links for this webquest are listed in order. Most importantly...READ the directions for how to find the areas needed to answer each question. Don't rush! Start with **Link #1:**

Kids in the House <https://kids-clerk.house.gov/grade-school/>

This should be **Kids in the House** for the grade school level. Click on the orange section, **House Officers**. On the right is a sticky note. Click on **House Members**.

Read the first paragraph and answer these questions:

1. How many representatives are there in the House of Representatives? _____
2. "The number of Representatives given to each state is based on its population. The more citizens a state has, _____."
3. The text says: "Each state is divided into districts based on the number of Representatives it receives. Each Representative serves one district."

Maine has two districts. So how many representatives does Maine have? _____

Keep reading in the third paragraph on the website:

4. How long is the term of a representative? _____

Now read in the fifth paragraph:

5. What two things do representatives spend most of their time doing while in Washington, D.C.?

6. In the House of Representatives, what is a bill? (Hover your mouse over the word *bills* to find the answer.)

THINK: A synonym phrase for this is: *an* _____ *for a new* _____
(suggestion) (piece of legislation)

7. Before deciding whether to vote "yes" or "no" on a bill, what must a representative do in order to prepare for the vote?

On the top-right sticky note, click the white area that says **View More**. Click **A Tour of the Capitol**. Begin reading **The Capitol** section to answer this question:

8. In what year did Congress begin meeting in Washington, D.C.? _____

Look for the little magnifying glass on the picture of Statuary Hall. To get a closer look, enlarge the photo by clicking on it. Now, close it and begin reading **Statuary Hall**:

9. What group used to meet in this room? _____

10. What is in the room now? _____

GOOGLE the names of the two historical figures from Maine that are displayed in Statuary Hall. Write their names as first name then last name, please. *Example: Bonnie Dill not Dill, Bonnie*

a. _____ b. _____

Scan down to the section called, **The Rotunda**. Begin reading the first paragraph and fill in the blanks below.

11. "The Rotunda is the _____ of the Capitol. The circular room is 96 feet in diameter and _____ high. It connects the two sides of the Capitol—the _____ wing and the _____ wing. The walls of the room are decorated with artwork showing important moments in _____ history, including the landing of _____ and the Wright Brother's _____."

The Rotunda



For #12, look in the last paragraph.

12. Famous people who have had a strong effect on the government of our country, such as Rosa Parks, and recently John McCain and President George H.W. Bush, are often honored in the Rotunda after they _____.

Scan down to the **House Chamber** and read the last sentence:



13. What is the name of the annual (*once a year*) speech given by the President in this chamber? (Put one word on each line. Spell and capitalize accurately.)

IMPORTANT: Close Link #1 NOW.

Go back to the class website and Click on Link #2 - The House Chamber

Look thoroughly at the large photo before scrolling down to find the answers below.

14. What is the “three-tiered structure” in front of the flag called? _____

This is the area where the Speaker of the House sits to direct the meetings of the House.

There are many *staffers*, assistants to the Speaker, that also have desks in this large front area.

15. What is shown on the four lighted panels above the flag? _____



16. This ebony rod with a silver eagle on top is called the **Mace**. In what year was the **Mace** that is in the House now made? _____ What two things are the mace used for?



17. What is put in the hopper? _____

Using **Link #3** on Ms. Dill's website, go to **The Architect's Virtual Capitol** (www.capitol.gov) and click on **Discover** to watch the short video clip.

Imagine you are taking a helicopter ride over Washington, DC.

After that, click on the **Explore** Interactive Map and **hover your mouse** around the map to see all of the buildings that are part of the Capital Complex.

18. How many office buildings are there that hold the offices of people working for the House of Representatives? _____ (*This is tricky. One of the **House Office Buildings** is off to the side.*)

How many buildings hold Senate offices? _____

20. Put a **star** on the Capitol Building in the picture below!

21. Put an **SC** on the Supreme Court Building.

22. Click on the **Thomas Jefferson Building**. In the first sentence, you can read what is in this famous building! It is the _____ of _____. This is where representatives and senators do much of their research in order to decide on how to vote on a bill.



Now click on the tab, *Arts and Architecture*. Click through the photo gallery to see the magnificent rooms in this building; if there is a caption, read it. You will need to do this to answer the next question. The **Main Reading Room**, with its high, domed ceiling is especially impressive. How high is the dome? 23. _____ That is 16 stories high! This room, by the way, is featured in the movie, *National Treasure 2*. If you are doing research in the Reading Room and need a book from the John Adams building, "a silent pneumatic system" will bring you the book in a very short amount of time. *Click out of the Thomas Jefferson Building and back to the map.* 24. **Put a JA on the John Adams Building.** *Click on the John Adams Building.* How long does it take to have a book delivered from the John Adams building to the Reading Room? 25. _____

Now, click on **Link #4**, the official government website for the House of Representatives (<http://www.house.gov/>). Near the top left, click on the blue box, **Representatives**. Click on M, to find **Maine**. You will see the names of our two representatives, as well as other information that will help you fill in the chart below. Please write their names as first name, then last name.

Example: Bonnie Dill- Bonnie



Name: Representative _____ _____	Circle which district this person serves: District 1 District 2	Circle the political party this person belongs to: Democrat Green Republican Independent Other
--	--	---



Name: Representative _____ _____	Circle which district this person serves: District 1 District 2	Circle the political party this person belongs to: Democrat Green Republican Independent Other
--	--	---



Look at this map. It shows District 1 and District 2 for the State of Maine. (See the circled 1 and 2 on the map.)

28. Put a dot where Wells is located and label it.

**You may need to Google where Wells is located so that you can put the dot in the right spot!*

29. You live in the Wells-Ogunquit area. So, which representative is representing you?

(Spell and capitalize accurately.)

As you know, the number of representatives your state has depends on the population of your state. The population is counted with a process called the census. Go to Ms. Dill's webpage and **click on**

Link #5: U.S. Census <http://www.census.gov/>. **Click on *Population Clock*.**

30. Approximately how many people live in the U.S. at this moment? _____

About how many people are living in the world at this moment? _____

31. Fill in this chart for the U.S.:

One birth every _____
One death every _____
One international migrant (net) every) _____
Net gain of one person every _____

Now go to Link #6 - U.S. Census State Facts for Kids: <https://www.census.gov/schools/facts/> Click on *Maine***.**

32. What was Maine's population in 2017? _____

33. Median age means the age that is exactly in the middle of the oldest person and the newborn.

What was Maine's median age in 2017? _____

34. *How old are you today?* _____

How many girls your age were there in 2017 in Maine? _____ Boys? _____

35. What is Maine's largest city? _____

36. In 2013, data started being collected about how many homes have a computer. What percentage of Maine homes had a computer in 2017? _____

Look at the Business chart for 2010 vs. 2016.

37. Compared to 2010, did "Video/Disc Rental Stores" ***increase*** or ***decrease*** in 2016? circle one

Write a complete sentence that might explain **why** this happened:

We will soon be doing a lesson on "apportionment." See if you can figure out the main idea for yourself by watching the clip shown by clicking Link #7 - The Amazing Apportionment Machine." Enlarge to full screen. <http://www.census.gov/2010census/mediacenter/census-data/census-apportionment-machine.php>

38. Apportionment can be described as the process used to divide up the number of seats that each _____ gets in the _____

Go to Link #8: The Official Website of the U.S. Senate (<http://www.senate.gov/>). Click on **Senators** in the top left corner. Use the tool to Choose a State and choose Maine. What are the names of our two senators?

39. _____ (R-ME) and _____ (I-ME)



40. Next to their names you will see this: **(R-ME) and (I- ME)**



What do those **political party initials** stand for?

Hint: If someone were a Democrat from Massachusetts, it would look like this:
 Person's Name - (D-MA)

R = _____ I = _____ ME = _____

(*If you need more help, Google the website called - BALLOTPEDIA - and once on the site, search each senator's name.)

Click on the **Susan Collins** name to bring you to her webpage. On the left, click on **About** and then on **About Senator Collins**. You can read a short biography about her if you want to. If not, scroll down to the photo of her in a blue suit. Just underneath the photo you will see a list of committees that she serves on. She will become an expert on these topics and advise others.

41. How many committees does she serve on? _____

She will be expected to be an expert on these topics. Name two of the committees she serves on:

42. Now go back to the page where you can click on **Angus King's** name using the back arrow. Click on **About Angus** and then on **Committee Assignments**. You will see that he also serves on several committees. Read the description of each committee. Match the name of the committee to the topic on which Senator King will become an expert:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| _____ Rules and Administration | a. how the military operates |
| _____ Intelligence | b. how the government gathers information about other countries, people, world events, etc. |
| _____ Armed Services | c. how the government will lower energy costs and combat climate change |
| _____ Energy and Natural Resources | d. how to make the Senate run smoothly, honestly, and openly (transparency) |

On Senator King's page, click on **Services**. Scroll to the bottom of the list and click on **Capitol Coffees**. Fill in this chart, keeping in mind that Capitol Coffee takes place in our *nation's capital*, where Senator King works on behalf of the State of Maine.

You can have coffee with Senator King!	
Day of week:	
Time:	
Full name and number of his office and office building:	
City:	
What you will talk about:	
You will be offered blueberry bread as a snack. Why do you think he offers blueberry bread and not some other goodie?	

Great Job!!!

Thanks for working so hard on the webquest! Surely, you learned a lot by doing so!

*****Be sure to check your mechanics: spelling, capitalization and punctuation!**

Mechanics will count towards your Habits of Learning score in Jupiter Grades.

*If you want to challenge yourself and learn even more, complete questions on the next page as **Personal Challenge**. These are optional and will not count toward your score. They are also not extra credit. Doing a little more investigating will be interesting and give you knowledge. It is a gift you can give yourself by making the effort.



Legislative Branch WebQuest

These questions are a PERSONAL CHALLENGE:

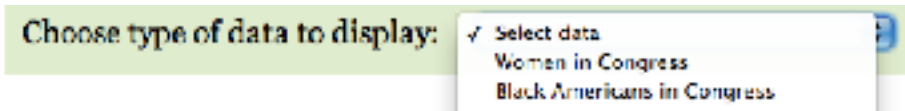
Complete all required questions first!

Go back to Our Website and Click the Link titled: “Shortcut to Women in Congress.”

Write a complete sentence telling who the first woman to be elected to the House was and in what year she was elected. (Do not copy the exact sentence from the text. Write your own.)

Interesting side note: Women in the U.S.A. did not have the right to vote in elections until 1920. So, the first woman elected to Congress was elected how many years before women even had the right to vote in national elections? _____

In the last sentence of the information about *Women in Congress* you will see a blue link that says **interactive map**. Click on it. This will bring you to *Mapping Congress*. Use the drop down menu, like the one shown here, to select “Women in Congress.”



Click on Maine on the map. Nothing seems to happen, but scroll to the bottom of the page. Being careful to spell and capitalize correctly, list the full names of the four women from Maine that have served in the U.S. Congress.

First name, last name. *Bonnie Dill NOT Dill, Bonnie*

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

.....
 • Interesting fact: •
 • From 2010 - 2012, three of •
 • these four Maine women were •
 • serving together in the U.S. •
 • Congress. Since Maine has •
 • only ever elected four women, •
 • it is cool that three of them •
 • served at the same time! •
 •.....



Now, click on **Margaret Chase Smith’s** picture. Scroll down to her biography and read the first two sentences. This woman holds a special place in American history because she was the first to:

Yeah, Maine!