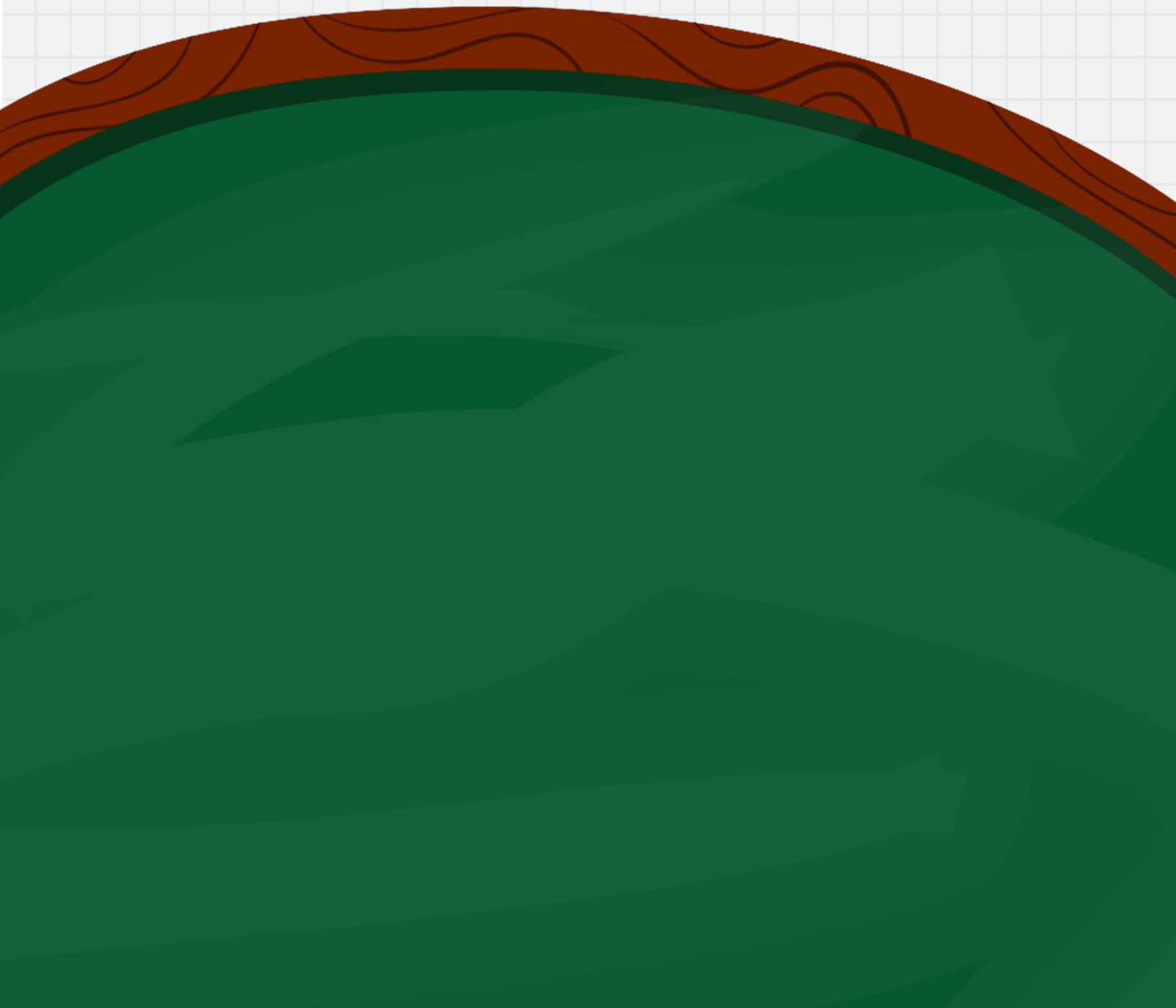




# schoolio

**GRADE 5 SOCIAL STUDIES**





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## Lesson 1 – Types of Government

### Discussion:

 There are many different types of government. Today we will look at just a few.

✓ Dictatorship:

- In a dictatorship, one person makes all the laws and suppresses any opposition.
- Often come to power through violence
- Unlimited power, usually rules through fear
- Limit speech, press, and religion

✓ Democracy:

- In a democracy, it is the people that say how the government is run.
- They do this by voting for people to represent them.
- There are usually rules about who can vote.

✓ Monarchy:




- In a monarchy, power is held by one person as ruler
- They make all the decisions
- Usually power is hereditary

 There are different sub-types of each of these types of rule.

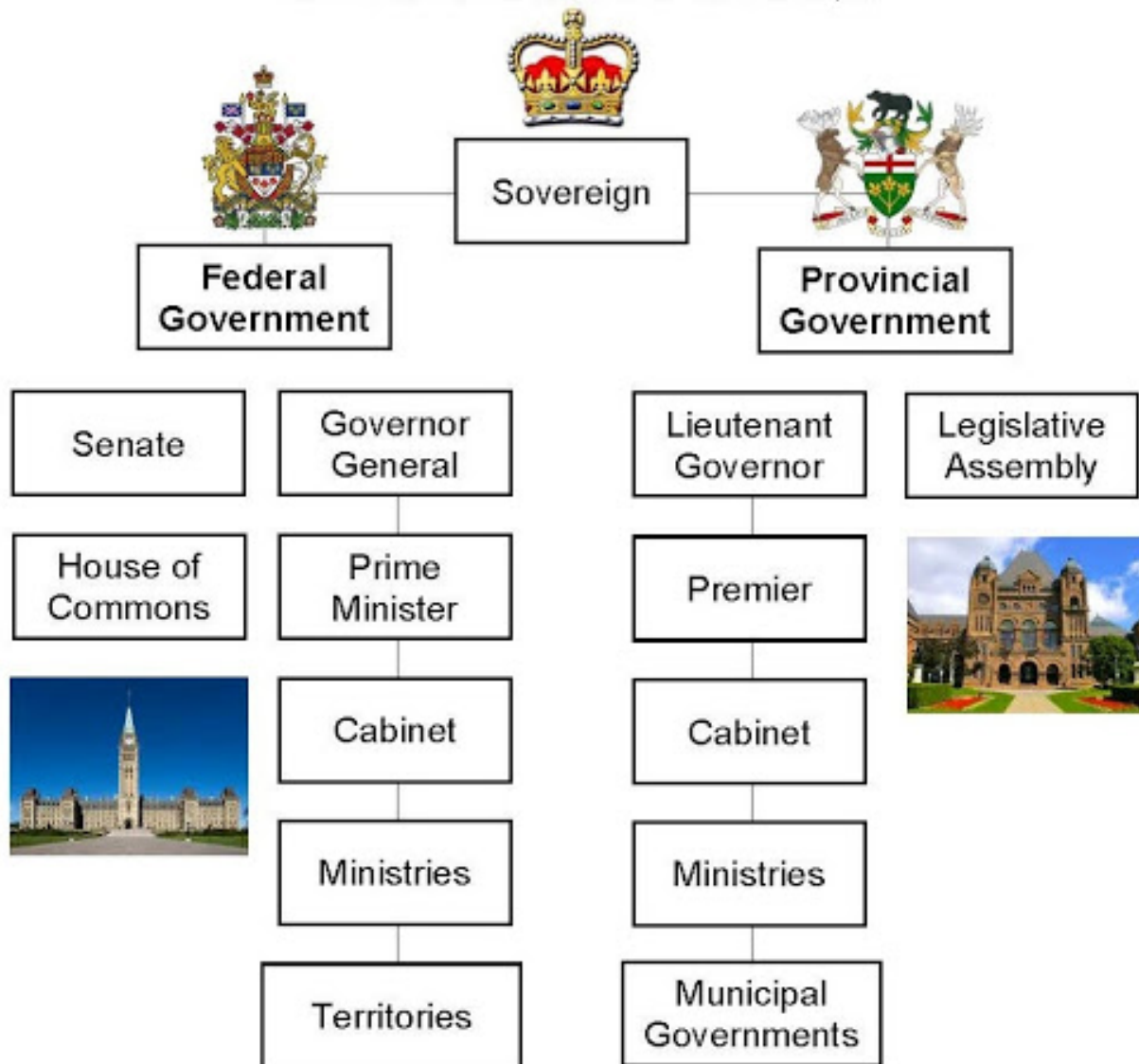
 Canada is a **Parliamentary Democracy** and a **Constitutional Monarchy**.

- ✓ **Parliamentary Democracy:** The citizens elect members to parliament and legislatures across the country. The executive is held accountable to the parliament.
- ✓ **Constitutional Monarchy:** The monarch is considered the head of state but must act within a constitution. In practice the executive powers are directed

by the Cabinet. Constitutional monarchy differs from absolute monarchy (where a ruler holds absolute power) in that constitutional monarchs are bound to exercise their powers within the limits prescribed by a constitution.

-  Canada is considered a full democracy.
-  Peace, order, and good government are founding principles of the Canadian government.
-  An emphasis on social justice has been a distinguishing element of Canada's political culture. Canada has placed emphasis on equality and inclusiveness for all its people.

# Government in Canada



**Media Recommendation:**

Government and Democracy by Student Vote:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7C8uDuhLqvg&t=1s>

**Activity:**

Government Definitions

# Government Definitions

Read each of the descriptions on the following two pages, and then choose the correct word from the Word Bank found on the second page.

Appointed by the Governor General, they join their peers to examine and revise legislation, investigate national issues, and represent regional, provincial, and minority interests. This is the Upper House in Canada's parliamentary democracy.

The 105 members are appointed by the Governor General. They examine and revise legislation. A bill must pass here before it can become law.

Created to counterbalance representation by population in the House of Commons, they give voice to underrepresented groups like Indigenous peoples, visible minorities, and women.

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Acts as the Queen's representative in Canada and is appointed by the Queen on the advice of the prime minister.

Duties are mostly ceremonial but include:

- Representing the Crown and ensuring there is always a prime minister.
  - Acting on advice of prime minister and cabinet ministers to give royal assent to bills passed in the Senate and House of Commons.
  - Presiding over swearing-in of the prime minister, chief justice and cabinet ministers.
- 

This is the elected component of the Canadian Parliament as each member is chosen by voters. There are 338 seats here, and the party that wins the most seats in a federal election form the government. The functions are to consider through debate new laws and changes to existing ones, authorise taxes, and provide scrutiny of the policy and spending of the Government in power.

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# Government Definitions

The work of the federal government is done through these departments, with a Cabinet Minister at the head of each department. Here are some examples: the environment, citizenship and immigration, foreign affairs, defence and natural resources.

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A group of Ministers appointed by the Governor General at the request of the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister selects a number of confidential advisers, usually from among the members of the governing party, to be his/her ministers. They are the key decision-making group in the federal government, responsible for its administration and the establishment of its policy.

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This is the most powerful political figure in the country — head of the federal government and leader of the largest party in the House of Commons. They are chosen by party members to represent the party as leader during an election.

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## Word Bank

Ministry

Governor General

Cabinet

House of Commons

Senate

Prime Minister



## Lesson 2 – Rights and Freedoms: Fundamental Freedoms

### Discussion:

- ✎ In Canada, we have a constitution called the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
- ✎ This outlines the Fundamental Rights and Freedoms of all Canadians.
- ✎ Any person in Canada – whether they are a Canadian citizen, a permanent resident or a newcomer – has the rights and freedoms contained in the Charter. There are some exceptions (like the right to vote).

✎ Today we will look at the Fundamental Freedoms:

✓ Freedom of Religion:

- This Fundamental Freedom states that Canadians have the right to freely choose and practice their religions and beliefs.



- Canadians cannot be discriminated against, or punished, for their religious beliefs.



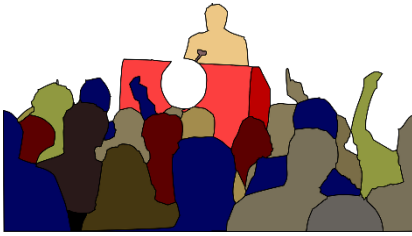
✓ Freedom of Belief, Opinion and Expression

- This Fundamental Freedom states that Canadians have the right to hold and share beliefs, so long as their beliefs don't promote hate or discrimination.
- This right is often confused with the American Freedom of Speech, which isn't limited by hate or discrimination.



✓ Freedom of the Media

- This Fundamental Freedom states that Canadians have the right to media that is published without government interference or control.



- There are some restrictions, in that journalists cannot publish hate speech or information that promotes terrorism, but it allows the press to investigate and report without control from the government.

✓ Freedom of Peaceful Assembly

- This Fundamental Freedom states that Canadians have the right to gather to voice and show their opinions through protest.
- This could be done to show support for a cause or to try and influence change to a rule or law the government may be considering or have passed.



✓ Freedom of Association



- This Fundamental Freedom states that Canadians have the right to gather with whoever they want, without the government stopping them or interfering.
- This is limited only in that the gathering can't be to perform something illegal.

**Activity:**

Our Family Fundamental Freedoms