

Checks and Balances Activity

Instructional time:

One 50 minute class period

Standards, Benchmarks and Indicators:

- Fairfax County Program of Studies (POS) connection:

The student will demonstrate knowledge of how public policy is made at the local, state, and national levels of government by

b) describing the roles and powers of the executive branch.

8.2.1 Students will be able to identify and explain the purpose, organization, and powers of government in the United States.

Students reach this benchmark when they are able to:

- b) *Explain how and why power is separated and shared in the United States at each level of government including the operation of checks and balances. (CE 6b,c; 7a, b; 8b)*

- Virginia SOL connection:

Standard CE.6c -- The student will demonstrate knowledge of the American constitutional government by C) explaining the principle of separation of powers and the operation of checks and balances.

Essential Learning:

Students will be able to identify which check and balance a particular branch is using to prevent another branch from abusing its power.

Assessment:

Teacher will informally assess the students by reviewing their answers to the worksheets.