

Georgia's Three Jobs

Read how Georgia's branches share the work of state government.

SS3CG1.b "Describe the three branches of state government: executive (governor), legislative (Georgia General Assembly), and judicial (Supreme Court of Georgia)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the name of each branch. Underline one sentence in each paragraph that tells the branch's main job.

Who Does What?

- ① Georgia's state government has three branches. Each branch has a different job, so power is shared. The executive branch is led by the governor. The governor helps carry out state laws and leads state agencies. For example, agencies may help keep roads safe or prepare for emergencies. The governor can sign bills into laws or veto, meaning reject, bills.
- ② The legislative branch is Georgia's lawmaking branch. It is called the Georgia General Assembly. People in the General Assembly listen to ideas, discuss possible laws, and vote on bills. A bill is a plan for a law. The General Assembly has two parts, the Senate and the House of Representatives. When both parts approve a bill, it can go to the governor.
- ③ The judicial branch includes state courts. The Supreme Court of Georgia is the state's highest court. Its justices study important court cases, hear legal arguments, and make decisions. The court may decide what a law means in a case. It may also decide whether a state law follows the Georgia Constitution. These jobs help make sure laws are used fairly.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Who leads Georgia's executive branch? Give one job this leader can do.

2 What is the name of Georgia's legislative branch? What are two things it does with possible laws?

3 What is Georgia's highest court? What can this court decide in a case?

4 A bill has been approved by both parts of the General Assembly. Which branch acts next, and what can its leader do?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

A new school bus safety rule is being considered. Write three sentences that explain what the legislative branch, the governor, and the Supreme Court of Georgia could each do with this rule.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the name of each branch. Underline one sentence in each paragraph that tells the branch's main job. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who leads Georgia's executive branch? Give one job this leader can do.	The governor leads the executive branch. The governor can carry out state laws, lead state agencies, sign bills, or veto bills.
2	What is the name of Georgia's legislative branch? What are two things it does with possible laws?	The legislative branch is the Georgia General Assembly. It discusses possible laws and votes on bills.
3	What is Georgia's highest court? What can this court decide in a case?	The Supreme Court of Georgia is the highest court. It can decide what a law means or whether a state law follows the Georgia Constitution.
4	A bill has been approved by both parts of the General Assembly. Which branch acts next, and what can its leader do?	The executive branch acts next. The governor can sign the bill into law or veto it.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The legislative branch could discuss and vote on a school bus safety bill. The governor could sign the bill into law and have state agencies carry it out. If a court case questioned the law, the Supreme Court of Georgia could decide what it means or whether it follows the Georgia Constitution.

Accept accurate descriptions of the three branches using the passage's ideas. For the open response, accept a reasonable school bus safety example that correctly matches the General Assembly with lawmaking, the governor with carrying out or signing laws, and the Supreme Court of Georgia with court decisions.