



An education outreach project from



HELLO, YOUNG ACTIVIST, AND CONGRATS:

You're growing up in a *reeeeally* interesting time for our American democracy! Even though you have to be 18 years old to vote, run for office or serve on a jury, you're never too young to learn about these and other important aspects of being a citizen—in fact, you can start playing an active role in our democracy right now, just by studying up and speaking out on the issues you care about. Here are some activities to get you started.

BE THE TREE

What is a democracy, and how does ours work? Watch the “Civics 101” videos with President Myriam and Congressman Kish (actually, they're UC students—give 'em a hand). Then cut, paste, and color your own “Tree Branches of Government” diagram, and think about where you see yourself someday: as President? Senator or Representative? Supreme Court Justice? or working at the grass roots?

STAGE A PROTEST!

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees our right to assemble peacefully and to speak out forcefully when we don't like the way our government is headed. What's *your* message to our leaders? Study an issue, come up with a slogan, and poster—SCPA student illustrator Abby Doench offers her tips on the next page. Then, with an adult's permission and/or supervision, march.



ENVISION JUSTICE

When a crime is committed in our community, how do we respond, and prevent it from happening again? Learn about Restorative Justice with SCPA student Seth Coppens; check out “What Does Justice Look Like?” on the D&M website, then share your own answer with us, in artwork, writing, audio or video.



Learn more at WWW.DEMOCRACYANDME.ORG, follow us on Twitter (@DemocracyAndMe), subscribe to our **DEMOCRACY & Z** podcast and YouTube channel, and start speaking up!

Thanks to 91.7 WXXU and to the Charles H. Dater Foundation for their support.

MAKE A POSTER ABOUT WHAT YOU CARE ABOUT!

- ① FIND AN ISSUE THAT YOU CARE ABOUT, AND WANT TO TALK ABOUT IN YOUR POSTER! IT COULD BE ANYTHING FROM RACISM TO CLIMATE CHANGE

GET SOME PAPER, AND THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT YOUR POSTER TO SAY. THINK ABOUT SYMBOLS OR WORDS IMPORTANT TO YOUR ISSUE

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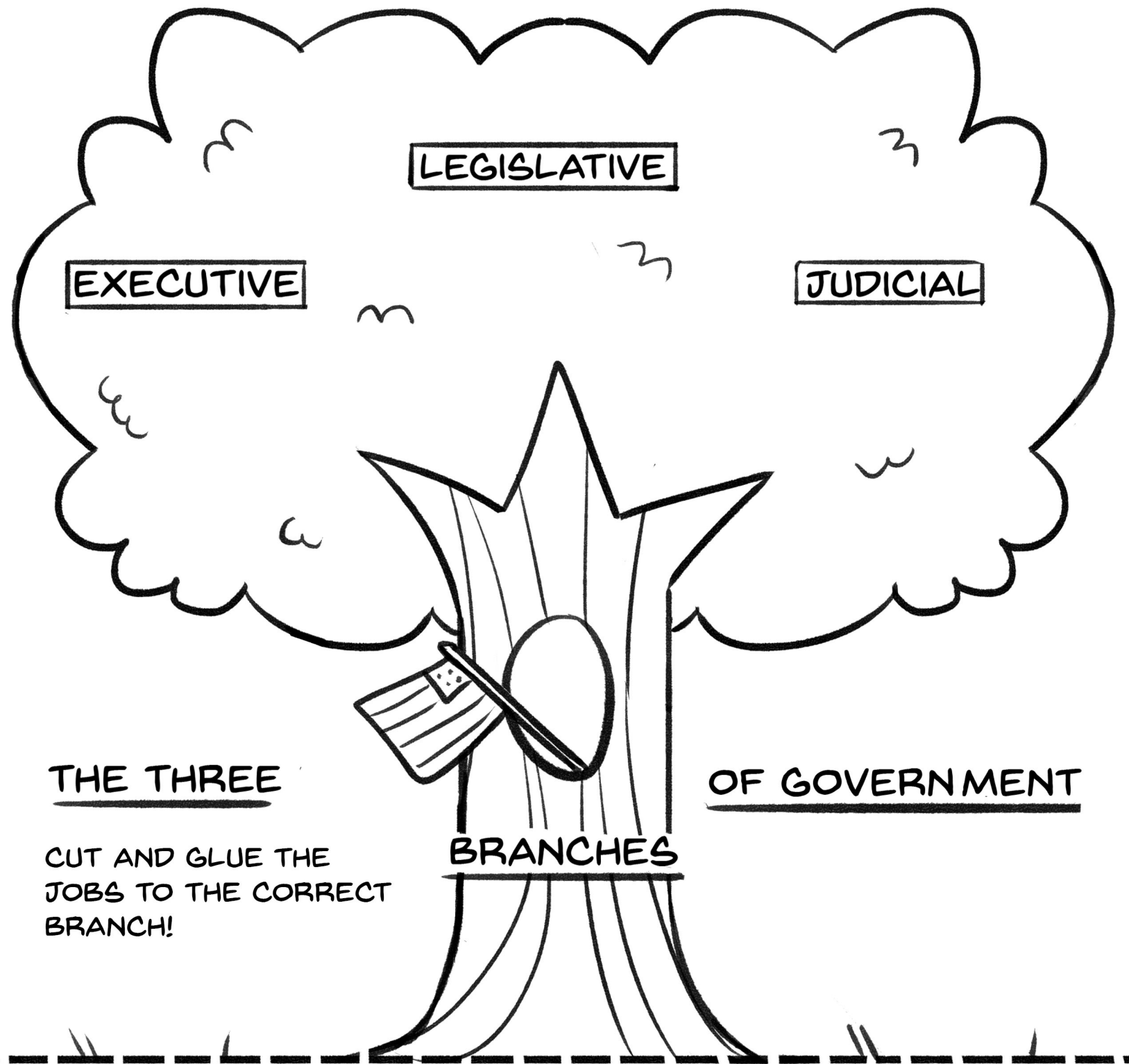
FOR EXAMPLE, A RAISED FIST WHEN TALKING ABOUT JUSTICE, OR EARTH WHEN TALKING ABOUT CLIMATE



- ③ PUT THOSE IDEAS INTO PAPER, AND DRAW YOUR POSTER! THINK ABOUT WHAT COLORS HAVE THE MOST IMPACT, FOR EXAMPLE, RED IS OFTEN USED TO MEAN ANGER

NOW TAKE YOUR POSTERS AND USE YOUR VOICE!





THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT



THE PRESIDENT IS THE HEAD OF STATE. THEY ENACT LAWS



THE SENATE IS A PART OF CONGRESS AND MAKES LAWS

REMEMBER!
LEGISLATIVE MAKES LAWS
EXECUTIVE ENACTS LAWS
JUDICIAL INTERPRETS LAWS



THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IS A PART OF CONGRESS AND MAKES LAWS



THE SUPREME COURT IS THE HIGHEST COURT IN AMERICA, AND IT INTERPRETS LAWS BASED ON THE CONSTITUTION



THE VICE PRESIDENT IS SECOND TO THE PRESIDENT AND CAN BREAK TIES IN THE SENATE OVER LAWS

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- WHICH OFFICIALS ARE ELECTED, AND WHICH ARE APPOINTED?
 - WHY ARE THERE 2 HOUSES OF CONGRESS, AND HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT?
 - WHAT DO THESE THREE BRANCHES LOOK LIKE AT THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS? HOW ARE THE ROLES DIFFERENT FROM AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL, AND WHAT ARE THEY CALLED?
 - WHICH BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT MIGHT YOU SEE YOURSELF WORKING IN SOMEDAY?