



TEACHER NOTE: to use this resource in your classroom - click 'file' and then click 'make a copy' to create your own Google Doc version to edit as needed and share with your students.

Type Your Name Here:

Researching U.S. Senators

1. View the following two video clips in this link to learn about this branch of the U.S. Government :[Congressional Powers and the Constitution](#)

Respond to the questions below:

Explain the founders' intent on establishing a Congress as Rep. King discusses.

Where in the Constitution does it provide for a Congress?

Explain Rep. Barr's statements on the powers of the legislative branch.

2. View this video clip to learn about this chamber then respond to the accompanying questions: [The Role of the Senate](#)

What is meant by the Senate being described as a “cooling saucer?”

Why was the Senate intentionally created to be slow?

What unique powers does the Senate have?

Describe the differences between the requirements for the House and the Senate. Why did the founders include these differences in the Constitution?

3. To learn about your state's senators, click here: [C-SPAN's Congressional Chronicle](#)

From the drop-down arrow on the website, select your state to view your state's senators.

Provide the political party for each senator:

Consider the political party representation, how could that impact policy decisions that are made in your state?

4. From the listed senators in your state, choose the person you would like to research and click on their name. Then, click the "Official Bio" link under the photo and complete the charts below with the given information.

_____		_____
Name		State
_____	_____	_____
Party	Title (if indicated)	Years in Congress

Current Position in the Senate (if indicated):

Dates held:

Work Experience

Company:

Dates of Employment:

Job Title (if indicated):

Company:

Dates of Employment:

Job Title:

Education

School:

Year Graduated:

Degree:

School:

Year Graduated:

Degree:

Additional Information (if applicable):

5. Click on the Twitter link beneath the person's photo if it is available and complete the chart.

Number of People Following:	Number of Followers:
Evaluate tweets you see in this person's feed. Some ideas to consider are: what is this person doing in your state or DC, which issues are being discussed, what position does this person take, explain why you agree/disagree with the content, how would you respond	

6. Committees

On your senator's page, scroll down to the "Committees" section. Respond to the questions below.

On which committees does your senator serve?

Choose one committee to explore. Click here: [Senate Committees](#) to learn about that committee, then go to the “About” page and read about it. What is the purpose of this committee?

Explain how these committees relate to the senator’s experience or background:

7. Votes

On your senator’s page, scroll down to the “Votes” section and complete the information in the charts.

Voting Record	Recorded Votes	Missed Votes	Votes Against the Majority	Party Line Votes	Featured Votes

Based on the data in your chart, explain your senator's voting record as it relates to their political party.

8. Floor Appearances and Bills

On your senator’s page, scroll down to the related sections below and complete the information in the charts.

Days on the Floor	Total Time Speaking

Bills Sponsored	Bills Passed	Bills Failed	Amendments	Co-Sponsored Bills

Click on several of the blue text links in the “Bills” section on the page to view the bills your senator has supported. In the space below, explain some of the issues that are reflected in the bills.

9. Evaluation

Review the data you collected in your charts. Is there a relationship among the various committees on which the individual serves, the voting record, bills and person’s experience and background? Explain your reasoning.

10. It’s Election Day! Would you vote for your senator? Explain your position based on your research. When you have completed this assignment, save your work and submit it to your teacher.