

CANADIAN NEWS / GOVERNMENT BOOK

The new ONTARIO CURRICULUM in SOCIAL STUDIES is divided into two parts:

1. Heritage and Citizenship
2. Canada and World Connections

This term we will focus our study on Canada and World Connections. In grade 5, this entails the study of the three levels of government and how they function and interact. We will also be learning to identify current political leaders at all three levels of government: municipal, provincial, and federal.

The purpose of this SOCIAL STUDIES PROJECT is to meet the above expectations. Beginning today, the students will be working on a home assignment - gathering information and communicating this information in written form.

Over the next two weeks, the students will be keeping a NEWS JOURNAL of various newspaper articles about current events in Canada which involve the three levels of government and/or our current political leaders.

In class, we have prepared our news journal, discussed the entire assignment, brainstormed different newspapers, looked through newspapers, chosen an article and completed a "sample write up" for that article. I have also introduced the RUBRIC by which this assignment will be marked.

We have discussed the four levels and the expectations for each level. A copy of the rubric is included.

Newspapers will be available for the students who do not have access to a newspaper at home. I have told the students that if they need to cut an article out of the paper they will do so at recess. They are responsible for putting the article in their homework folder, with the name of the newspaper and the article's date so that the work may be completed at home.

Name: _____



OSHAWA - The City in Motion - VCR

1. Name the mayor of Oshawa. _____

2. What is the population of Oshawa? _____

3. What is the city's main industry? (Company name and product)

4. Six kinds of transportation facilities are available in Oshawa. Name them.

5. Name 6 places of interest in the City of Oshawa that are mentioned or shown in the video.

6. The government of the City of Oshawa had this video made. What do you think is the purpose of the video?

The Four Levels of Canadian Government

As a citizen of Oshawa, you are subject to four levels of government that affect you in one way or another each and every day.

1. Municipal (local) Government

Who? Mayor and 15 councillors

Where? They meet at *City Hall* - Civic Administration Building
50 Centre St., South Oshawa

What? Municipal *responsibilities* include:

- tax collection
- fire prevention
- planning and zoning
- building permits
- building inspection
- parks and recreation
- local streets
- garbage collection

2. Regional Government

Who? Eight municipalities send a total of 32 elected representatives to be **Regional councillors** for Durham.

Where? They meet at the *Region of Durham Headquarters* at Rossland Road in Whitby and are called the *Regional Council*.

What? Regional *responsibilities* include:

- police
- sewage collection and treatment
- traffic lights
- health and welfare
- water supply

THE ELECTORAL PROCESS

Activity 1:

Match the key words on the left with the correct definition on the right.

ELECTORAL PROCESS KEY WORDS	DEFINITIONS
1. The scrutineers	is an area in which a candidate runs for election.
2. The poll clerk	chooses the candidate he wants to elect and marks a ballot.
3. The candidate	is an initialed piece of paper with the candidates' names on it.
4. The polling station	hands the voter an initialed ballot and puts the marked ballot in the ballot box.
5. The ballot	are people at each polling station who make sure the rules are followed.
6. The deputy returning officer (DRO)	decides when an election will be called.
7. Enumerators	marks your name off the Voter's list and enters it in the Poll Record Book.
8. The riding	is a place where people go to vote.
9. The Prime Minister	go door to door and list the names of eligible voters.
10. The voter	wants to be elected and runs a campaign to tell the voters what he or she stands for.