The Balance of Government - Out Government’s Seesaw

The three branches of our government, the Legislative Branch, Executive, and Judicial Branches – each have powers that make them equally powerful. They’re like three people who weigh the same taking turns on a seesaw - no matter which two are on the seesaw at opposite ends, they always stay balanced.

Using the information below, fill in the seesaws to show how each branch balances the other.

President:

Makes treaties with other nations

Carries out laws

Vetoes bills Congress passes if he thinks they are wrong

Appoints judges in the Judicial Branch for a life term

Writes the budget

Congress:

Makes laws

Can override a President's veto of a bill by 2/3 vote

Can impeach a President for misconduct

Must approve presidential appointments for judges and justices

Gives the O.K. on budget spending and treaties

Can remove judges from office for misconduct

Supreme Court:

Interprets laws

Decides if laws that Congress makes are Constitutional

Decides if decisions that the President makes are Constitutional

Makes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with other countries.

Carries out \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bills he does not like.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the budget.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ treaties and budget.

Makes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

Overrides President's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ vote.

Can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the President for misconduct.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Which branch is this?) (Which branch is this?)



Interprets \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Can prove laws to be against the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ presidential appointments for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

Can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ judges for misconduct.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Which branch is this?) (Which branch is this?)



\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ judges for a

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ term.

Can declare presidential actions

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Which branch is this?) (Which branch is this?)

