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| **Grade:** 2nd **Unit:** 4 **Time Frame:** mid -April – June**Essential Question:** What is government and why do people need laws? |
| **Focus Questions:** What kind of government do we have in the United States?What is the purpose and structure of our government?How are people united by the principles of democracy and symbols of citizenship?Who are our leaders and what are their roles and responsibilities?How do we choose our leaders?Why do communities and people need rules and laws?How do the principles of democracy affect decision-making in New York City government?How do taxes help the community?How do resources vary across different types of communities?How does scarcity affect decision-making?What types of specialized occupations provide services to a community?How can anyone create positive change in his or her schools, community, or country?How do citizens provide service to their community? |
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| **Student Outcomes:**  Describe the role of governmentUnderstand how the Constitution protects our rightsUnderstand the process of voting and holding an election.Identify the meaning of democracyCompare and contrast local, state, and national leadersExplain how symbols represent citizenship such as the U.S. flag, the Pledge of Allegiance and national holidaysAnalyze symbols of American democracyExplain why communities need rules and laws to solve problems and resolve conflictsDescribe the roles of community leadersIdentify community resourcesAnalyze primary and secondary sources and use them as evidence to support their ideasAnalyze various ways that citizens provide service to their communitiesExplain how availability of resources to meet basic needs varies across urban, suburban, and rural communites.Describe how and why problems arise when people want more than the community can provdeIdentify why taxes are collectedLearn about the roles and responsibilities of the three branches of government in levels of government (national, state and local)Debate and solve realistic city problems as a city council memberCreate a service learning plan to help their community, school, or country. |
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| **Assessment :** | **End of Unit:** |
| **Pre Assessment**: Identify and explain knowledge about government, leaders, symbols, needs, wants, and laws**Post Assessment:** Explain the election process, identify a law and explain its importance, differentiate between goods and services, and explain the importance of community service. | Symbol Project : Choose a symbol of the United States (Statue of Liberty, American Flag, Liberty Bell, Mount Rushmore) |
| **Extension Activities:** Write a letter to a community leader explain a problem in your community. |
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