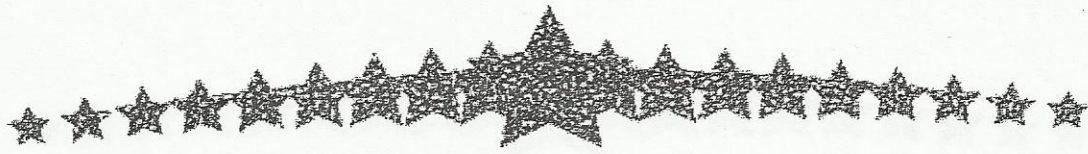
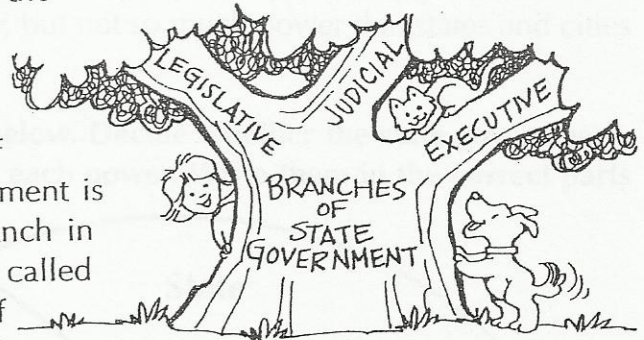


Name _____



State Government

From Alaska to Hawaii and California to Maine, the states of the United States are so different and have such different concerns that federal laws cannot meet each state's specific needs. State government allows each state to make rules and laws that are specific to its state. Each state has a capital city, like the country's capital, Washington, D. C., where the government does its work. The organization of state government is very similar to the organization of the federal government. Each state in the United States has an executive, legislative, and judicial branch of government. The executive branch in state government is headed by the state's governor. The legislative branch in most state governments has an upper house (usually called a senate) and a lower house (usually called a house of representatives, but sometimes called by other names)



to make laws. The judicial branch in state government contains state courts and a state supreme court. Each state also has its own constitution. A state's constitution and laws can be very different from another's, but cannot go against the U.S. Constitution.

Circle true or false for each statement below.

- | | | |
|---|------|-------|
| 1. Each state's constitution is the same. | true | false |
| 2. Each state has three branches of government. | true | false |
| 3. Every state has two houses in the legislative branch. | true | false |
| 4. Every state has a governor. | true | false |
| 5. A state's constitution can keep women from voting in that state. | true | false |
| 6. A governor is to a state as the president is to the country. | true | false |
| 7. State governments do their work in Washington, D. C. | true | false |
| 8. Federal laws are not specific enough to meet all state's needs. | true | false |
| 9. Each state has a supreme court. | true | false |
| 10. The executive branch makes the laws in state government. | true | false |