**Classwork #10**

(read and answer questions)

The purpose of government is to serve citizens and help make our lives better (*promote the general welfare*). Our national government tries to fulfill this function, and so does our state and local governments. 1.) What is the purpose of government at every level?

State and Local Government are similar to the National Government. One of the biggest differences is that the names of the government positions change. The head executive of the state is not referred to as a president. 2.) What is the name for the head executive of the state of Virginia? The leader of the state executive branch has many powers and responsibilities that are similar to the President. 3.) What is the major job of the state executive branch?

Our local government is similar to the national and state government, but the local government is closer to the people. It is better suited to meet the daily needs of neighborhoods and communities. The local government has much less power and responsibilities than the state and national government, mostly because our local government (county and city) represent much fewer citizens. 4.) What is the title for the executive that represents the citizens of a county? 5.) What is the title for the executive that represents the citizens of a city or town?

One of Congress’ major responsibilities is to write laws that make the United States a better country. The Legislative branch of the state of Virginia (or commonwealth of Virginia) fulfills that same function for the state of Virginia. 6.) What is the name of the state legislative branch? The state legislative branch is bicameral. This means that legislative power is broken into two houses. 7.) What are the two houses names?

There are many differences when comparing Virginia to other states. This is why each state makes its own laws. The same concept applies to regions of Virginia. Virginia Beach is much different than the town of Rocky Mount. Therefore, the laws (called ordinances at the local level) are different. 8.) What is the name of county legislative Branch? 9.) What is the name of the city/town legislative branch? 10.) What do we call a local law?

11.) What kind of law would exist in Virginia Beach, but not in the small rural Appalachian town of Rocky Mount?

**Extra Credit:** Why is Virginia referred to as a common wealth and not a state?