

**Primary Civics (K-2)**  
**Theme Addressed: Government**

| <b>Title</b>                 | <b>Author</b>   | <b>Subject</b>                            | <b>Brief Description</b>  |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|---|
| Congress                     | Carol Greene    | How Congress Works                        | Describes the structure, function, and interrelationship of the two houses of Congress.   |
| Daffy Duck for President     | Chuck Jones     | How Checks and Balances Protect Democracy | While lobbying for a year-long open season on rabbits, Daffy Duck discovers how the constitutional system of checks and balances protects democracy in the United States.   |
| Feathers and Fools           | Mem Fox         | Government/Arms Race Parable              | Peacocks and swans do not communicate with each other; they are fearful and distrustful and as a result each side builds up an "arsenal" and destroys each other. A baby peacock and swan decide to become friends and focus on their similarities rather than differences. |
| House Mouse, Senate Mouse    | Peter W. Barnes | Legislative Process                       | America's mice have a government to with Presidents, Senators and Congress mice, who are elected, debate, vote the popular will- It's a Rodent Republic on Capitol Hill!  |
| If I Were Queen of the World | Fred Hiatt      | Authority/Limits To Power                 | Queen is very powerful and self-indulgent; only the love of her little brother can reign in some of her unchecked and abusive power.  |
| Kindergarten Show-Off        | Ann Martin      | Conflict                                  | Two friends are always competing with each other; teacher devises a way for girls to sort through their conflict by utilizing strategies and rules.   |
| Presidents                   | Carol Greene    | Job Description of President              | Explains what the job of the President is and briefly introduces the first forty presidents of the United States, from George Washington through Ronald Reagan.   |

|   |                         |                          |   |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| So You Want to Be President?                                    | Judith St. George       | Variety of Presidents    | Tired of books about the presidency that present themselves as history books? Author Judith St. George—along with Caldecott Honor-winning illustrator David Small—has created a book about the presidency that’s serious fun. |
| The Supreme Court   | Carol Greene            | Supreme Court            | Describes the function and structure of the Supreme Court and gives a brief overview of some important cases and well-known justices.   |
| Too Many Tamales  | Gary Soto               | Family “Government”      | Child fears she has lost her mother’s diamond ring; children eat tamales to find ring but mother has it all along.  |
| We the People: The Constitution of the United States of America | Peter Spier             | Preamble of Constitution | Author provides overview of Constitutional Convention and ratification, then uses illustrations to make each phrase in the preamble come alive for children.  |
| Woodrow, The White House Mouse                                  | Peter and Cheryl Barnes | Life in the White House  | Entertaining way to describe being President and living in the White House to Children.   |

### Intermediate Civics (3-4)

#### Theme Addressed: Government

| Title                        | Author                 | Subject                                   | Brief Description   |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---|---|
| Congress                     | Carol Greene           | How Congress Works                        | Describes the structure, function, and interrelationship of the two houses of Congress.   |
| Daffy Duck for President     | Chuck Jones            | How Checks and Balances Protect Democracy | While lobbying for a year-long open season on rabbits, Daffy Duck discovers how the constitutional system of checks and balances protects democracy in the United States.   |
| Hiawatha: Messenger of Peace | Dennis Brindell Fradin | Representative forms of government        | Real-life account of Hiawatha’s role in bringing together 5 warring Indian tribes which would form the Iroquois Federation, a representative system of government that is often credited with providing a model for American colonists three hundred years later. |

|   |                   |  |   |
|---|-------------------|--|---|
| House Mouse, Senate Mouse                                 | Peter W. Barnes   | Legislative Process                                  | America's mice have a government too with Presidents, Senators and Congress mice, who are elected, debate, vote the popular will- It's a Rodent Republic on Capitol Hill!   |
| Our Journey from Tibet: Based on a True Story             | Laurie Dolphin    | Freedoms and government repression of those freedoms | Story of a young girl who flees Tibet with her siblings to escape oppressive Chinese rule. Children get split from their parents and attend a camp for Tibetan refugee children. Also discusses the role of the Dalai Lama.   |
| Poppy   | Brian Floca       | Authority, control, and government                   | Owl has convinced a family of deer mice that only he can provide them with protection from the porcupines. Heroine of story finds out that the owl is lying and challenges his authority to set the rules for her family.   |
| Presidents  | Carol Greene      | Job Description of President                         | Explains what the job of the President is and briefly introduces the first forty presidents of the United States, from George Washington through Ronald Reagan.   |
| Scholastic Encyclopedia of the Presidents and Their Times | David Rubel       | Presidents   | Great for homework, this nice effort includes a couple of large pages on each United States president, headlines from his administration, neat trivia (Herbert Hoover was the first president to have an asteroid named for him. Abe Lincoln was the first to wear a beard in office), a context in popular culture from Johnny Appleseed to virtual reality, and plenty of solid history in clear English. |
| So You Want to Be President?                              | Judith St. George | Variety of Presidents                                | Tired of books about the presidency that present themselves as history books? Author Judith St. George—along with Caldecott Honor-winning illustrator David Small—has created a book about the presidency that's serious fun.   |

|   |                         |  |  |
|---|-------------------------|--|--|
| Star of Fear:<br>Star of Hope                                   | Jo Hoestlandt           | Government repression of religious group | Story takes place during Nazi occupation of France during WWII. Helen has a Jewish best friend, Lydia, who is forced to wear the yellow star. Before Helen realizes the severity of the situation Helen and her family faces, the Germans have come and taken away the whole family. |
| The Fall of the Berlin Wall: The Cold War Ends                  | Nigel Kelly             | Communist vs. capitalist government      | This books explains how the Cold War began, persisted, and ended in a way that elementary students can understand.   |
| The Supreme Court   | Carol Greene            | Supreme Court                            | Describes the function and structure of the Supreme Court and gives a brief overview of some important cases and well-known justices.  |
| Vaclav Havel and the Velvet Revolution                          | Jeffrey Symynkywicz     | Limits of consensual government          | Traces the revolution in Czechoslovakia and can be used to illustrate how limited and unlimited government differs.  |
| We the People: The Constitution of the United States of America | Peter Spier             | Preamble of Constitution                 | Author provides overview of Constitutional Convention and ratification, and then uses illustrations to make each phrase in the preamble come alive for children.   |
| Woodrow, The White House Mouse                                  | Peter and Cheryl Barnes | Life in the White House                  | Entertaining way to describe being President and living in the White House to Children.  |

**Advanced Civics (5-6+)**  
**Theme Addressed: Government**

| <b>Title</b>   | <b>Author</b>                          | <b>Subject</b>                         | <b>Brief Description</b>  |
|--|--|--|---|
| Brown v. Board of Education: Equal Schooling for All | Harvey Fireside and Sarah Betsy Fuller | Government's role In managing disputes | Historical overview of conflict surrounding school desegregation, the Supreme Court's decision and the decision's impact on both sides.             |
| D is for Democracy: A Citizen's Alphabet             | Elissa Grodin                          | Explains U.S. Government               | The organizing device for this book on the U.S and its government is the alphabet, with each letter introducing a person, place, thing, or concept. |

|   |                        |   |  |
|---|------------------------|---|--|
| Daffy Duck for President                      | Chuck Jones            | How Checks and Balances Protect Democracy   | While lobbying for a year-long open season on rabbits, Daffy Duck discovers how the constitutional system of checks and balances protects democracy in the United States.  |
| Grandpa's Mountain                            | Carolyn Reeder         | Taking property away from people to make the Shenandoah National Park. The Great Depression | Carrie spends her summers with her grandparents in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. This particular summer they must all grapple with the decision of the government to clear all homesteads out of the area that is designated to become the Shenandoah National Park. Grandpa uses every legal means to try to stop the movement. Others are happy with the offer of a home and land near schools and hospitals to replace their poorer accommodations in the mountains. Economic themes as well. |
| Hiawatha: Messenger of Peace                  | Dennis Brindell Fradin | Representative forms of government  | Real-life account of Hiawatha's role in bringing together 5 warring Indian tribes which would form the Iroquois Federation, a representative system of government that is often credited with providing a model for American colonists three hundred years later.  |
| Our Journey from Tibet: Based on a True Story | Laurie Dolphin         | Freedoms and government repression of those freedoms  | Story of a young girl who flees Tibet with her siblings to escape oppressive Chinese rule. Children get split from their parents and attend a camp for Tibetan refugee children. Also discusses the role of the Dalai Lama.  |
| Poppy   | Brian Floca            | Authority, control, and government  | Owl has convinced a family of deer mice that only he can provide them with protection from the porcupines. Heroine of story finds out that the owl is lying and challenges his authority to set the rules for her family.  |

|  |                                  |                                     |  |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Scholastic Encyclopedia of the Presidents and Their Times              | David Rubel                      | Presidents                          | Great for homework, this nice effort includes a couple of large pages on each United States president, headlines from his administration, neat trivia (Herbert Hoover was the first president to have an asteroid named for him. Abe Lincoln was the first to wear a beard in office), a context in popular culture from Johnny Appleseed to virtual reality, and plenty of solid history in clear English |
| The Fall of the Berlin Wall: The Cold War Ends                         | Nigel Kelly                      | Communist vs. capitalist government | This book explains how the Cold War began, persisted, and ended in a way that elementary students can understand.  |
| The Royal Kingdoms of Ghana, Mali and Songhay: Life in Medieval Africa | Patricia and Frederick McKissack | Medieval African governance         | This book accurately describes what life was like in Medieval Africa, including multiple historical points of view. In addition to recounting the past, the book explains the process of archaeological and historical research. (For more advanced readers.)  |
| The Supreme Court  | Carol Greene                     | Supreme Court                       | Describes the function and structure of the Supreme Court and gives a brief overview of some important cases and well-known justices.  |
| We the People: The Constitution of the United States of America        | Peter Spier                      | Preamble of Constitution            | Author provides overview of Constitutional Convention and ratification, and then uses illustrations to make each phrase in the preamble come alive for children.   |