



Department of the Treasury: Lesson Plan

| Topic | |
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| <p>The U.S. Department of the Treasury (USDT) was created on September 2, 1789 as a permanent institution that could manage the finances of the recently-created government. Today, it is responsible for promoting economic security and financial prosperity. The USDT has two primary components: the offices, which are in charge of forming policy and management, and the bureaus, which are responsible for carrying out specific operations. It is an executive department of the federal government and has sub-agencies that address specific functions.</p> | |
| Possible subjects/classes | Time needed |
| Government History Politics | 30-45 minutes |
| Video link: | |
| https://academy4sc.org/video/department-of-the-treasury-figuring-out-us-finances/ | |
| Objective: <i>What will students know/be able to do at the end of class?</i> | |
| <p>Students will be able to...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Explain the roles and responsibilities of the USDT2. Identify several sub-agencies of the USDT and their function3. Explain the impact of the USDT on everyday life | |
| Key Concepts & Vocabulary | |
| The federal government, the executive branch, economic security | |
| Materials Needed | |
| Worksheet | |
| Before you watch | |



Quick Write: How do you keep track of your money? How do you make sure you save enough money to buy things you will want or need in the future?

While you watch

Students should complete the worksheet.

After you watch/discussion questions

1. What kind of impact do you think the USDT has on American politics and governance? What actions, organization, or people does it influence most heavily?
2. What do you think is the most essential role of the USDT? Why?
3. If you worked for the USDT, what kind of job would you want? Why? How would you be contributing to the responsibilities of the USDT?

Activity Ideas

1. Have students write a short essay on what actions they would take if they were the Secretary of the Treasury, as well as how their actions would then impact American politics and the American people.
2. Split the class into two groups and assign each group a position on the following question: The Department of the Treasury is the most important executive department. Then have students prepare for several minutes before having a debate. Students can also be split into smaller groups for larger classes so that each student gets a chance to speak.

Sources/places to learn more

1. "Agencies - Treasury Department." *Federal Register*. www.federalregister.gov, <https://www.federalregister.gov/agencies/treasury-department>.
2. *Department of the Treasury: History*. 2006, [https://www.treasury.gov/about/education/Documents/brochure%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.treasury.gov/about/education/Documents/brochure%20(1).pdf).
3. *Role of the Treasury* | U.S. Department of the Treasury. <https://home.treasury.gov/about/general-information/role-of-the-treasury>.
4. "USAspending.gov." *USAspending*. www.usaspending.gov, <https://usaspending.gov/>.