Social Studies Lesson Plan- SS.4.C.3.2
Distinguish between state (governor, state representative, or senator) and local government (mayor, city commissioner)

1. Title: State and local government- 4th Grade

2. Overview - Big Ideas

   Enduring Understandings Identify the responsibilities of State government
   - Understand the system of local governments
   - Recognize the differences between city, county and municipal governments
   - Understand the relationship between state and local governments

   Essential Questions – (What provocative questions will you use to foster inquiry, understanding and transfer of learning?)
   - How are Florida’s local governments structured?
   - What are the functions of each of the following governments: state, county, and municipal?
   - What are the responsibilities of each level of government?
   - Why is it important to have a division of power among state, county, and municipal governments?

3. Lesson Objectives:

   Standards - (Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Social Studies)
   Fourth Grade NGSSS-SS Benchmarks
   - SS.4.C.3.2 Distinguish between state (governor, state representative, or senator) and local government (mayor, city commissioner).

   Tested Seventh Grade NGSSS-SS Benchmarks Relevant to this Lesson
   - SS.7.C.3.4. Identify the relationship and division of powers between the federal government and state governments.

4. Key Vocabulary:
subdivisions, counties, municipal government, state, government, local government, sheriff, tax collector, property appraiser, supervisor of elections, commissioners, districts, county seat, mayor-council, mayor-commission, commission-manager

5. **Evidence of Student Understanding (Assessment) in this Lesson:**

*What key knowledge and skills will students acquire as a result of this lesson?*

After students complete this lesson, an understanding of the basic functions of each level of government should be apparent. They will understand the function and duties of each level of government. They will also be able to understand the relationship and the division of powers within the different levels.

*What will students be able to do as a result of such knowledge and skills?*

As a result of acquiring said knowledge and skills, students will be able to complete the attached tables associated with this lesson displaying the function and duties of each level of government. Students will also be able to write an explanation of the duties and responsibilities of a department or office at a local government level.

In addition, students will be able to correctly answer the questions that are part of the formal assessment included with this lesson.

*Both formative and summative assessments are included*

1. **Materials Needed:** (Include primary sources you will use in this lesson)

   - Attachment A: Reading associated with lesson
   - Attachment B: Article 8, Section 1 & 2 of the Florida Constitution
   - Attachment C: Two column Notes on Responsibilities of State and Local Governments
   - Attachment D: City vs. County Government Venn Diagram
   - Attachment E: Organizing Information on County Officials
   - Attachment F: State and Local government Post Quiz

2. **Steps to Deliver the Lesson:**
A detailed, step by step description of how to deliver the lesson and achieve the lesson plan objectives.

a. **Lesson Opening:** Have students come up with a list of services and responsibilities of government. Explain the division of the different levels of government (state, county, municipal) to students. Write the name of the different levels on the board.

b. **Reading:** Read Attachment A, "State and Local Government" (taken from thewhitehouse.gov) with your students using effective reading strategies appropriate for your class. Discuss and check for understanding as the students read through the passage.

c. Read and discuss attachment B, “Article, 8 sections 1 & 2 of the Florida Constitution” on the organization of local government.

d. Discuss vocabulary associated with lesson

e. Have students work individually or as a group to complete Attachment C, “Two Column Notes on State and Local government,” Attachment D, “City versus County Venn Diagram,” and attachment E, “Organizing Information on County Officials.”

f. Have students take the post-quiz associated with the lesson (attachment F). Review quiz with students and check for understanding as needed. Reteach concepts not mastered.

3. **Specific Activities: (From Guided to Independent)**

Activities designed to facilitate the gradual release of teacher responsibility, from teacher-led to independent

a. After students have completed attachments B, C and D, have them write summaries that explain the information presented in the graphic organizers.

b. For students who are struggling readers and/or English Language Learners, pair them with another student for assistance.

c. Be sure to circulate the room to monitor the students’ abilities in writing the paragraphs. Model writing with the students demonstrating difficulties.

d. Have students share their writing with the class.
4. **Differentiated Instruction Strategies:**

*Strategies to accommodate a variety of student learning needs, remediation strategies as well as enrichment strategies.*

a. While students are completing the graphic organizers, work individually with students who are having difficulty with reading.

b. While students are completing the paragraph summary, work on an individual basis with students who are having difficulty.

5. **Technology Integration:**

*Activities incorporating technology; e.g., address lesson content through online resources*

a. Have students research the website from the state of Florida to find out the names of the people currently holding positions.

b. Have students research the website of the cabinet members to further understand the duties of those offices.

c. Have students research a Florida court case and construct a flow chart showing the different courts through which the case has passed.

6. **Lesson Closure:**

*Methods to draw ideas together, review concepts, etc.*

a. After completing the post-quiz and going over with students, ask students the following questions for wrap up of the lesson.

   - What is the structure of Florida’s local governments?
   - What are the functions of each government level? (State, county and municipal)
   - What are the responsibilities of each level of government?
   - Why is it important for there to be a division of power among the state, county and municipal governments?

b. **For home learning:** Write a persuasive paper explaining the need for three levels of government: state, county and municipal. Provide at least three reasons to support your position.
ATTACHMENT A:

READING PASSAGE STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

State & Local Government

Most Americans have more daily contact with their state and local governments than with the federal government. Police departments, libraries, and schools — not to mention driver's licenses and parking tickets — usually fall under the oversight of state and local governments. Each state has its own written constitution, and these documents are often far more elaborate than their federal counterpart. The Alabama Constitution, for example, contains 310,296 words — more than 40 times as many as the U.S. Constitution.

State Government

Under the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, all powers not granted to the federal government are reserved for the states and the people. All state governments are modeled after the federal government and consist of three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial. The U.S. Constitution mandates that all states uphold a "republican form" of government, although the three-branch structure is not required.

Executive Branch

In every state, the executive branch is headed by a governor who is directly elected by the people. In most states, the other leaders in the executive branch are also directly elected, including the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the secretary of state, and auditors and commissioners. States reserve the right to organize in any way, so they often vary greatly with regard to executive structure. No two state executive organizations are identical.

Legislative Branch

All 50 states have legislatures made up of elected representatives, who consider matters brought forth by the governor or introduced by its members to create legislation that becomes law. The legislature also approves a state's budget and initiates tax legislation and articles of impeachment. The latter is part of a system of checks and balances among the three branches of government that mirrors the federal system and prevents any branch from abusing its power.

Except for one state, Nebraska, all states have a bicameral legislature made up of two chambers: a smaller upper house and a larger lower house. Together the two chambers make state laws and fulfill other governing responsibilities. (Nebraska is the lone state that has just one chamber in its legislature.) The smaller upper chamber is always called the Senate, and its members generally serve longer terms, usually four years. The larger lower chamber is most often called the House of Representatives, but some states call it the Assembly or the House of Delegates. Its members usually serve shorter terms, often two years.
Judicial Branch
State judicial branches are usually led by the state supreme court, which hears appeals from lower-level state courts. Court structures and judicial appointments/elections are determined either by legislation or the state constitution. The Supreme Court focuses on correcting errors made in lower courts and therefore holds no trials. Rulings made in state supreme courts are normally binding; however, when questions are raised regarding consistency with the U.S. Constitution, matters may be appealed directly to the United States Supreme Court.

Local Government
Local governments generally include two tiers: counties, also known as boroughs in Alaska and parishes in Louisiana, and municipalities, or cities/towns. In some states, counties are divided into townships. Municipalities can be structured in many ways, as defined by state constitutions, and are called, variously, townships, villages, boroughs, cities, or towns. Various kinds of districts also provide functions in local government outside county or municipal boundaries, such as school districts or fire protection districts.

Municipal governments — those defined as cities, towns, boroughs (except in Alaska), villages, and townships — are generally organized around a population center and in most cases correspond to the geographical designations used by the United States Census Bureau for reporting of housing and population statistics. Municipalities vary greatly in size, from the millions of residents of New York City and Los Angeles to the 287 people who live in Jenkins, Minnesota.

Municipalities generally take responsibility for parks and recreation services, police and fire departments, housing services, emergency medical services, municipal courts, transportation services (including public transportation), and public works (streets, sewers, snow removal, signage, and so forth).

Whereas the federal government and state governments share power in countless ways, a local government must be granted power by the state. In general, mayors, city councils, and other governing bodies are directly elected by the people.

Taken from:  www.thewhitehouse.gov
ATTACHMENT B:

Florida Constitution Article 8, Section 1 & 2

Local Government in the State of Florida

County Government:

According to the Florida Constitution, the state of Florida is divided into political subdivision called counties. There are 67 counties in Florida. Counties are usually involved with executing state-related functions such as elections, court proceedings, and tax collecting services. In essence their responsibilities are tied to what the state requires of them. Counties are required to have the following: a sheriff, tax collector, property appraiser, supervisor of elections and a clerk of the circuit court. They are elected and serve four year terms. The governing body of each county is the board of county commissioners unless otherwise provided by a county charter. The board is made up of five or seven members. The main center of the county government is the county seat. The county seat includes the county court, jail and administrative offices.

The state constitution requires that counties be divided into districts of equal populations, or as close as possible to equal populations. After 10 years, when the census is conducted the counties’ districts are redrawn in order to provide equal distribution of the population. Most Florida counties are divided into five districts.

Municipal Government:

Local government is usually the town or city where you live. This level of government provides services such as fire, police, water supply and trash collection. Sometimes these services are shared with the county government. The constitution states that municipalities have the power to proceed with local government and services. The constitution also requires that all municipal legislative bodies be elected to office. Most municipalities have three forms of local government: mayor-council, mayor-commissioner and commissioner manager.

The mayor-council form is probably the oldest and most common in the United States. The mayor-council form consists of an elected mayor (elected at-large), who serves as the city's chief administrative officer, and a council (elected either at-large or from districts), which serves as the municipality's legislative body. The council has the authority to formulate and adopt city policies and the mayor is responsible for carrying them out. The mayor attends and presides over council meetings but does not vote, except in the case of a tie.

The mayor-commission form can have different variations. Usually, the mayor and the council's power is vested in the elected commission, who may or may not chose a mayor from its own members. The mayor usually performs mostly ceremonial duties.

The commission-manager or council-manager form has an elected council or commission that hires a professional to carry out the job of town or city manager which includes the executive functions of the municipal government.
ATTACHMENT C:

Two Column Notes State and Local Government

Using the reading and additional information, fill in the two column notes categorizing the responsibilities of the state and local governments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsibilities of the state government</th>
<th>Responsibilities of the local government</th>
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</table>
City Versus County Venn Diagram

Create a Venn diagram to compare and contrast the responsibilities of a city government versus a county government.
ATTACHMENT E:

Organizing Information on County Officials

Pick one county government department (sheriff’s office, board of education, water resources) or county official (sheriff, district attorney etc) and research the functions and divisions of the department or the office. Draw a diagram showing the different parts of the department or office. Then write an explanation of the duties and responsibilities of the department or office.
State and Local Government-Post Quiz

Low Complexity Items (3 items):

1. According to the state constitution, how is Florida divided?
   a. Into counties
   b. Into countries
   c. Into municipalities
   d. Into districts

2. What is the main center of the county government?
   a. governor
   b. mayor
   c. county seat
   d. commissioner

3. Which of the following is a state-related function that counties carry out?
   a. Fire service
   b. Police service
   c. Elections
   d. Trash collection

Moderate Complexity Items (3 items):

4. According to the state constitution, every 10 years county districts are redrawn to provide equal distribution? Why do you think this is so?
   a. To make it easier to provide municipal services
   b. To give officials from local governments the opportunity to serve in another district
   c. To adjust for changes in the population within the state
   d. Even representation at the state level for each district based on a vote
5. Which of the categories listed below are services provided by municipal government?

a. State education funding, state sales tax, and state child welfare services
b. County trash collection, county fire protection, and county police protection
c. U.S. Postal Service, the Federal Internal Revenue Service, and the Central Intelligence Agency
d. City trash collection, city fire protection, and city police protection

6. Which of the following would cite evidence that a municipal government is carrying out their responsibilities?

a. A mailman delivering a package to your house
b. Receiving a phone call reminding you about the upcoming elections for governor
c. Your trash being picked up every Tuesday and Thursday
d. Receiving a notice from the Internal Revenue Service that your income taxes are due

High Complexity Items (4 items: 2 of which are Document Based Questions- DBQ):

7. Which of the following statements is a correct example of a power of a particular level of government?

a. The mayor is not happy with the governor and is going to hold a special election in his municipality in order to oust the governor.
b. The state director of parks and recreation does not agree with the way the county clerk of the circuit court is handling the processing of traffic tickets and has decided to call a meeting with him to explain to him how he needs to begin handling his job.
c. The municipal trash service has not been running smoothly and the governor has decided that he is going to cut the salaries of trash collectors in the city.
d. The county property appraiser is not doing his/her job correctly so; the board of county commissioners has decided to audit the records of the department.
Which of the following graphics would you construct to develop a logical organization in order to explain the levels of government from largest to smallest?

a. 
state
county
municipal

b. 
state
municipal
county

c. 
municipal
county
state

d. 
municipal
state
county
DBQ: Read the following excerpt from the Florida constitution related to the municipal government.

Article 8, SECTION 2.

SECTION 2. Municipalities.—

(a) ESTABLISHMENT. Municipalities may be established or abolished and their charters amended pursuant to general or special law. When any municipality is abolished, provision shall be made for the protection of its creditors.

(b) POWERS. Municipalities shall have governmental, corporate and proprietary powers to enable them to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions and render municipal services, and may exercise any power for municipal purposes except as otherwise provided by law. Each municipal legislative body shall be elective.

(c) ANNEXATION. Municipal annexation of unincorporated territory, merger of municipalities, and exercise of extra-territorial powers by municipalities shall be as provided by general or special law.

9. Based on this statement, which of the following is correct?

a. The governor can undo a municipal government
b. Once a municipal government is established it could never be undone
c. When a municipal government is undone the municipality next to it becomes responsible for the services
d. Municipal governments can be changed by special law

DBQ: Read the following excerpt from the Florida constitution related to county government. Article 8, Section 1.

(d) COUNTY OFFICERS. There shall be elected by the electors of each county, for terms of four years, a sheriff, a tax collector, a property appraiser, a supervisor of elections, and a clerk of the circuit court; except, when provided by county charter or special law approved by vote of the electors of the county, any county officer may be chosen in another manner therein specified, or any county office may be abolished when all the duties of the office prescribed by general law are transferred to another office. When not otherwise provided by county charter or special law approved by vote of the electors, the clerk of the circuit
court shall be ex officio clerk of the board of county commissioners, auditor, recorder and custodian of all county funds.

(e) COMMISSIONERS. Except when otherwise provided by county charter, the governing body of each county shall be a board of county commissioners composed of five or seven members serving staggered terms of four years. After each decennial census the board of county commissioners shall divide the county into districts of contiguous territory as nearly equal in population as practicable. One commissioner residing in each district shall be elected as provided by law. Ordinance in conflict with a municipal ordinance shall not be effective within the municipality to the extent of such conflict.

10. Which of the following statements is correct?

a. County officers are elected through local elections
b. County officers are elected when voters throughout the state elect them.
c. The Board of County Commissioners are appointed by the governor of the state
d. A commissioner may reside in a county other than the one he represents
Answer Key:

1. a
2. c
3. e
4. c
5. d
6. c
7. d
8. a
9. d
10. a
Civic Integration
Lesson Plan Quiz Blueprint
NGSSS-SS Main Benchmark: SS.4.C.3.2
Title of Lesson: State and Local Government
Grade Level: 4th

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<th>Question #</th>
<th>Benchmark Grade Level</th>
<th>Benchmark 7th Grade Tested</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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