



1992 Freedom Award  
National Recipient  
Barbara Jordan



**PRE-VISIT ACTIVITY**

**Biography**

Barbara Jordan broke many barriers for African Americans and women in the political arena. She was the first African American to serve in the Texas state senate since 1883. Ms. Jordan also became the first black woman from a southern state to serve in the United States House of Representatives, serving from 1973 to 1979. In a famous speech at the 1976 Democratic National Convention Jordan was the first African American woman to give a keynote address at a political convention. Barbara Jordan died in 1996.

What was Ms. Jordan’s profession? (circle your answer or answers)

- A. Politician
- B. Business professional
- C. Activist
- D. Musician

Answers:  
A : Barbara Jordan was a prominent politician.

**Vocabulary**

**Congressman:** A member of the U.S. House of Representatives

**Activist:** A person who practices direct action to effect changes in social conditions and governments.

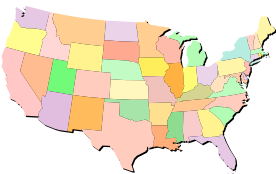
Name two people (aside from Ms. Jordan) who are **Congressmen**. Can you name our district's representative to Congress?

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1.



2.



3.



4.

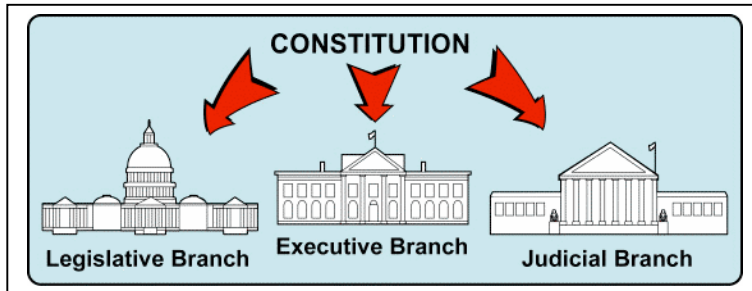
**Can you identify the images above?**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Answers:  
1. World Map 2. Unites States of America 3. Texas 4. Texas state flag

**POST-VISIT ACTIVITY**

The U.S. Government has three branches, which are established by our Constitution.



The **legislative branch** makes laws for the nation. The main lawmaking body of this branch is known as Congress. Congress is made up of two parts, the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Members of the House of Representatives are called Congressmen and members of the Senate are called Senators.

The **executive branch** makes sure people follow the laws that the legislative branch makes. The leaders of this branch are the President and Vice-President.

When people are unsure about the meaning of a law, the **judicial branch** listens to many opinions and makes a decision. The judicial branch is made up of courts. The highest of these courts is the U.S. Supreme Court. The Supreme Court is made up of 9 justices.

Complete the sentences below:

**Congressman** John Lewis is a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Branch.

**President** Bush is a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Branch.

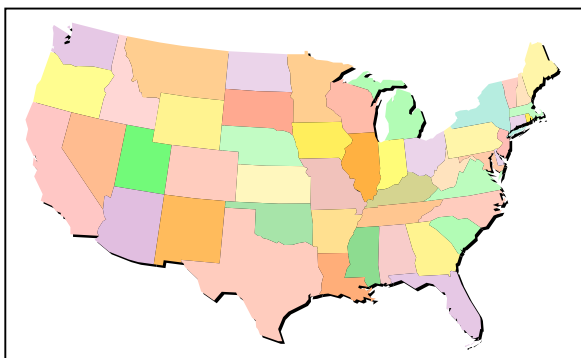
Chief **Justice** William H. Rehnquist is a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Branch.

Write three new facts you learned about civil rights, history or government:

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Locate Texas on this map and circle it. Our nation's capital city, Washington D.C., is named after George Washington, our first president. It is located in the District of Columbia, named after Christopher Columbus, a famous explorer. It borders two states, Virginia and Maryland. Do you know where it is on this map? If so, circle it. If not, look at a map in your school library.