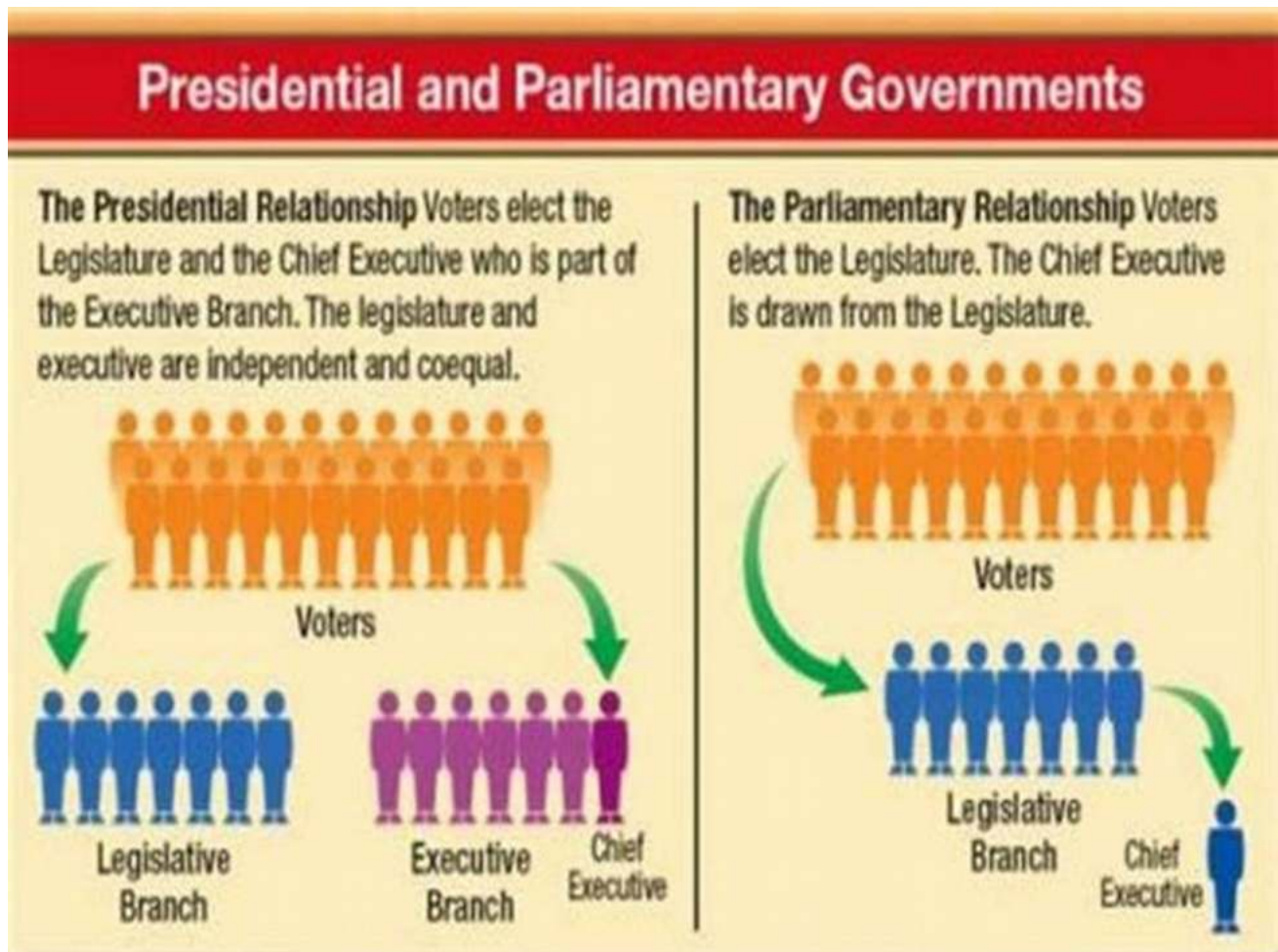


# Discover the Differences Between Presidential and Parliamentary Systems of Government for Kids



Understanding how a country's government works is essential for every citizen, even at a young age. In the field of political science, two commonly practiced systems of government are presidential and parliamentary systems. This article will help kids learn about the key differences between these two systems, how they function, and the impact they have on a nation's governance.

## What is a Presidential System of Government?

In a presidential system, the country's head of state and head of government is an elected president. The president is chosen directly by the people through a process called elections. The president has significant powers and is responsible for implementing and enforcing laws. They are separate from the legislative branch, which consists of two houses: the Senate and the House of Representatives.



## Political Science for Kids - Presidential vs Parliamentary Systems of Government | Politics for Kids | 6th Grade Social Studies

by Baby Professor (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3595 KB

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Screen Reader : Supported



The United States is an excellent example of a country with a presidential system. The president serves as the country's leader for a fixed term and cannot be easily removed from office. They have the power to veto laws, make executive decisions, and act as the commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

### What is a Parliamentary System of Government?

In a parliamentary system, the head of state and head of government are two different roles. The head of state, such as a monarch or a president, is a symbolic figurehead with limited powers. The head of government, often called the prime minister, is the leader of the ruling political party or coalition.

The prime minister is selected by members of the legislative body, which is known as the parliament. Unlike the president in a presidential system, the prime minister can be removed from power by a vote of no confidence from the parliament. This system emphasizes the role of the legislative branch in decision-making and lawmaking.

Many countries around the world, including the United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia, operate under a parliamentary system of government.

## **Key Differences between Presidential and Parliamentary Systems**

### **Election Process**

In a presidential system, citizens directly elect their president, usually through a popular vote. The elected president holds significant powers and remains in office for a fixed term, regardless of the majority's approval.

In a parliamentary system, citizens vote for members of the parliament, who then select the prime minister. The prime minister's tenure depends on their ability to maintain the majority's support in the parliament.

### **Separation of Powers**

In a presidential system, the executive branch (president) is separate from the legislative branch (congress/parliament). The president has the power to veto laws and make executive decisions independent of the legislature.

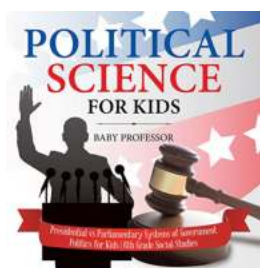
In a parliamentary system, there is no strict separation between the executive and legislative branches. The prime minister, who is also a member of the parliament, has to work closely with other legislators to pass laws and implement policies.

## Accountability and Stability

In a presidential system, the president is directly accountable to the people. Since their position is not dependent on parliament's support, they can make quick decisions and implement policies efficiently. However, it can lead to political gridlock if the president and the majority in the legislature have opposing views.

In a parliamentary system, the prime minister and their government are accountable to the parliament. If the government loses the support of the majority, it can result in a vote of no confidence and potentially lead to new elections. This system encourages collaboration and stability.

Understanding the differences between presidential and parliamentary systems of government is crucial for kids to grasp the mechanics of political decision-making. Whether it's electing a president or forming a coalition government, these systems shape the way countries are governed and how policies are implemented. By learning about political science at a young age, kids can develop a greater understanding of democracy and become informed citizens of the future.



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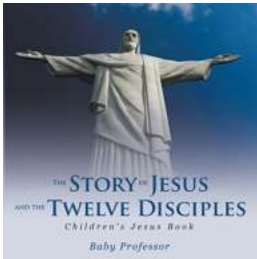
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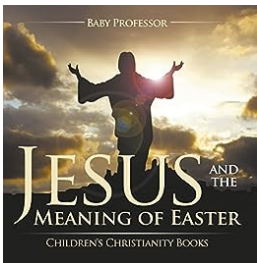


In this book, your child will learn about the presidential and parliamentary systems of government. Aside from the most basic, straightforward definitions, this learning resource will also discuss examples to further your child's knowledge. Encourage your child to learn more about politics. Read this educational tool beginning today.



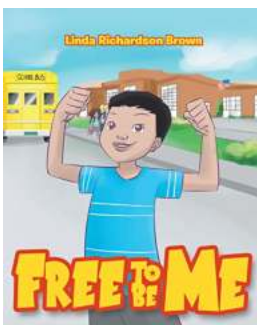
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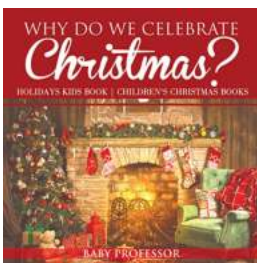
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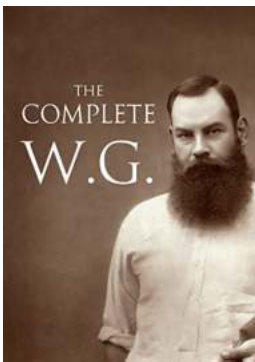
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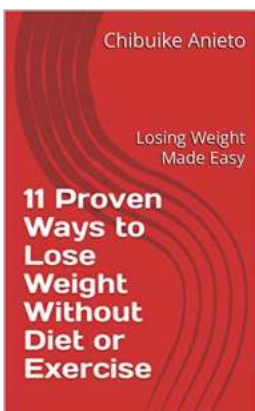
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