



Tax Activity

Create three signs. On one, write: "Federal." On another, write: "State." On the other, write: "Local." Hang these three signs in different parts of the room.

Review the differences between federal, state, and local. Emphasize how federal refers to our entire country. State refers to our specific state, and local refers to our community, city, or county.

Explain that these three branches of government use taxes to pay for things that benefit the people who live in those areas. Say that you're going to name a benefit of taxes. Young people are to run to the correct sign: federal, state, or local.

Explain that they need to listen closely. They'll hear the word state for the ways the state uses taxes. They'll hear the word local for the ways the local government uses taxes. They'll hear the word national, United States, or interstate, for the way the federal government uses taxes.

Clear an area so young people can easily run from sign to sign. Say: A playground at your local park. Federal, state, or local? Give participants time to decide and run to the appropriate sign. The correct answer is: local.

Name other examples, one at a time, giving time for participants to move. State health care. (Answer: state.) The United States Army. (Answer: federal.) A state park. (Answer: state.) Interstate highway. (Answer: federal.) A local garbage pickup. (Answer: local.)

A national park. (Answer: federal.) A local permit to remodel your house. (Answer: local.) A state highway. (Answer: state.) If you wish, name other examples.

Debrief the activity if you wish.

For more ideas, visit <http://www.bankit.com/leaders/earn-well>.

