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| 1. What are the two systems of courts in the United States? |  |
| 1. What is the difference between the types of cases heard in Federal and State court systems? |  |
| 1. Where do cases start on both federal and state levels? |  |
| 1. Who hears cases at the District and County Level? |  |
| 1. Who hears the case on the appellate level? |  |
| 1. Who hears cases at the Supreme Court level? How many are there in each system? |  |
| 1. Why are there an odd number of justices in the supreme courts? |  |
| 1. Where would a case originating in Orange Park be heard? |  |
| 1. Which courts deal with case appeals? |  |
| 1. What court is the last chance for a case to be heard before the decision cannot be appealed again? |  |

**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pd.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:** Use the Federal and State Court Diagram to help you answer the questions below.

**The Federal and Florida State Court Systems – Sample Graphic Organizer**

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| |  | | --- | | **The Federal Court System** |      |  | | --- | | **The U.S. Supreme Court**   * This is the highest court in the United States. * The Supreme Court is structured with eight justices and a Chief Justice.   **Appellate Jurisdiction**   * This court has the power to hear appeals from U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal and from state supreme courts. * The Supreme Court has the power of judicial review. * The U.S. Supreme Court is an appellate court. |  |  | | --- | | **U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal**   * There are 12 circuits in the U.S. * These courts have panels of three judges that hear cases.   **Appellate Jurisdiction**   * This court has the power to hear appeals from U.S. District Courts. * The U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal are appellate courts. |  |  | | --- | | **U.S. District Courts**  **Original and Appellate Jurisdiction-Felonies**   * There are 94 district courts in the U.S. * The courts are structured with a judge and a jury. * This court level is where most federal cases start. * This court has the power to hear civil and criminal cases related to federal laws. * The U.S. District Courts are trial courts. |   **Original jurisdiction-misdemeanors** | |  | | --- | | **The Florida State Court System** |      |  | | --- | | **The Florida Supreme Court**   * This is the highest court in Florida and is located in Tallahassee. * The FL Supreme Court is structured with seven justices and a Chief Justice. * This court has the power to hear appeals from the District Courts of Appeal as well as other cases as assigned from the FL Legislature. * The Florida Supreme Court is an appellate court. |  |  | | --- | | **Florida District Courts of Appeal**   * There are 12 circuits in Florida. * The courts have panels of three judges that hear cases. * This court has the power to hear appeals from Florida Circuit Courts. * The Florida District Courts of Appeal are appellate courts. |  |  | | --- | | **Florida Circuit Courts**   * There are 20 circuit courts in Florida. * The courts are structured with a judge and a jury. * This court has the power to hear trials on cases not assigned to county courts and appeals from county courts. * The Florida Circuit Courts are trial and appellate courts. |  |  | | --- | | **Florida County Courts**   * There is a county court in every Florida County. * The courts are structured with a judge. * This court has the power to hear minor arguments between citizens and minor criminal offenses. * The Florida County Courts are trial courts. | |