



NAME: _____

CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S POWERS

VOCABULARY

Directions: Frontload (introduce and review) these vocabulary words with your students to facilitate their understanding of the topic and coinciding resources:

1. **Environmental Protection Agency** (n.) - An independent executive agency of the United States federal government tasked with environmental protection matters.
2. **Clean Water Act** (n.) - A U.S. federal statute that establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface waters.
3. **Wetlands** (n.) - A distinct ecosystem that is flooded or saturated by water, either permanently or seasonally.
4. **Chevron Doctrine** (n.) - The idea that in litigation over federal agency action, the courts will defer to the agency's own construction of its operating statute, unless that construction is outside the range of reasonableness, usually because the meaning of the statute is clear.
5. **Executive Order** (n.) - A rule or order issued by the president to an executive branch of the government and having the force of law.

CURRENT EVENT ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Directions: As you read through news and other resources about TOPIC, consider the following questions:

- What are wetlands?
- What role does the Environmental Protection Agency play in the U.S. and how does the Clean Water Act affect the EPA's actions?
- What is the Chevron doctrine and how does it play a role in the Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency case?
- What are the pros and cons of federal agency's regulations?
- How would you rule in the Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency case? Explain.
- In your opinion, is it the Supreme Court's place to determine what are "wetlands"? Explain.
- In your opinion, what long term effects may be caused by the Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency case? Explain.