New York City’s Government

City Leaders
Over eight million people live in New York City. The city is made up of five boroughs: the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island. New York City has a mayor who leads the city’s executive branch. The mayor appoints the leaders of the city’s departments, approves laws, and creates the city’s budget. This budget must be approved by the city council, which is the legislative branch of the city’s government. The city council is made up of 51 representatives, one from each district of the city. The city council also makes laws and makes sure people receive services.

New York City Officials
Many officials help to govern New York City. The comptroller is in charge of New York City’s money. The public advocate heads the city council. Each borough in the city has an elected borough president, who chooses people to serve on the borough’s community board. New York City’s government manages city services such as transportation, public libraries, health services, and police departments. The government of New York City collects taxes to pay for these services.

Duties of New York City’s Government
- creates the city’s budget each year
- approves laws passed by the city council
- decides how the city’s land is used
- chooses leaders of the city’s departments

Find and underline a form of each vocabulary word.

**Vocabulary**
- **borough** noun, an area of a city with its own leaders
- **budget** noun, a spending plan

What are the five boroughs of New York City? Circle the sentence that tells the answer.

How does New York City pay for services? Highlight the sentence that tells the answer.

**SKILL Reading Charts**
Study the duties of New York City’s government listed in the chart. Highlight the item that is a responsibility of the city council.