

## How to Be a Good Citizen

### What is citizenship?

Citizenship means being a citizen, or member of a group. When you are apart of a group, you have certain rights and responsibilities.

### What is a right?

A right is something you are allowed to have. The right to vote means, when a citizen turns 18, he/she is allowed to vote for who they want to be president or even vote on how money in his/her town should be spent. Citizens also have the right to a free public education. Some countries don't have those rights. There are many rights citizens of the United States have.

### What is a responsibility?

Responsibilities are things people have to do because it is doing their fair share. A responsibility of a citizen would be to obey the law. People, who don't obey the law, are not only hurting themselves, but others too. It wouldn't be fair if a person drove to fast, because it could hurt someone else. That's why when people break the law they get into trouble. There are responsibilities for everyone, everywhere. Even at home and school. Other responsibilities are being polite, being fair, telling the truth, or doing something when you say you will. Think of all of the responsibilities you have everyday.

### Who makes the rules for people to follow?

It may be difficult sometimes to want to follow rules, but rules are made so that people don't get hurt physically or with words. Parents make rules to keep you safe from dangerous people or places. Police officers watch to make sure people don't break laws. It isn't because they like to find bad people, but because they want to make sure others don't get hurt. Teachers and principals want students to follow rules at school. If there weren't any rules at school, how could anyone get their education that they have a right to?

### What are some ways citizens show respect to their country?

We say the Pledge of Allegiance, celebrate national holidays, and honor our national symbols. The correct way to say the Pledge of Allegiance:

\*Stand up, straight and tall

\*Place right hand over chest

\*Remove hats

\*Look at the flag while saying the pledge

National holidays we celebrate:

\*Labor Day

\*Memorial Day

\*Independence Day

Symbols of our country:

\*Bald Eagle

\*American Flag

\*Constitution

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions for Reflection

These are things citizens are doing around town. Write the word **yes** in the blank when someone is showing how to be a good citizen. Write the word **no**, when someone is **not** being good citizen.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Cindy helped her mom carry in groceries.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Sam broke the window to the school and ran before anyone saw him.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Amy broke the window to the school. She ran to find the nearest adult to tell what happened.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. George found a wallet in the parking lot of a grocery store. He took it inside to give it to the store manager.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Rita stole candy because her mom wouldn't buy it for her.

### Multiple Choice:

6. When people do what they are supposed to it is a \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. responsibility      b. right      c. holiday
7. \_\_\_\_\_ have rights and responsibilities.  
a. bald eagles      b. people      c. citizens
8. It can be \_\_\_\_\_ when people don't follow rules or laws.  
a. good idea      b. silly      c. dangerous
9. We say a pledge to \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. laws      b. the American Flag      c. police officers
10. Who **should** follow rules and laws?  
a. everyone      b. only good citizens      c. only adults

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Matching: Match the person with the action.**

- a. Teacher
- b. Parent
- c. Police Officer
- d. President
- e. Citizen

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. Responsible, truthful, has citizenship

\_\_\_\_\_ 12. Makes sure students follow rules so others can learn

\_\_\_\_\_ 13. Leader of the United States

\_\_\_\_\_ 14. Has rules for home and everywhere you go to keep you safe

\_\_\_\_\_ 15. Keeps people safe from dangerous crimes and makes sure you follow the law

16. Name one way you show good citizenship at school. \_\_\_\_\_

17. Name one way you show good citizenship at home. \_\_\_\_\_

18. Name one way you show good citizenship in your town. \_\_\_\_\_

19. Who is one person you know that shows the traits of a good citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

20. What does this person do to show good citizenship? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Key:

1. yes

9. b

2. no

10. a

3. yes

11. e

4. yes

12. a

5. no

13. d

6. a

14. b

7. c

15. c

8. c

16-20. answers will vary