



Character Counts

Citizenship

"The lives of children and young people are increasingly shaped by what happens in other parts of the world. Education for *Global Citizenship* gives them the knowledge, understanding, skills and values that they need if they are to participate fully in ensuring their own and others' well being and to make a positive contribution both locally and globally" *Oxfam's Education for Global Citizenship*

Citizenship

Citizenship requires doing our share for our community, our country and our world. Being a good citizen means caring about the good of society and participating actively to make things better.

Patriotism

Patriotism is an important part of good citizenship. Patriotism is love of and loyalty to our country. It involves honoring the democratic ideals on which the country is based and expecting elected officials to do the same, respecting and obeying its laws

and honoring its flag and other symbols. It also involves accepting the responsibilities of good citizenship, such as keeping informed about local and national issues, voting, volunteering and serving the country in times of war.

As an adult, here are some things you can do...

- Take a child with you when you vote. Talk to him about the candidates, the offices they want to hold and their positions on key issues
- Participate in community-building activities, such as cleaning up parks and assisting with community activities
- Discuss citizenship with a child and find examples of what good citizens have done for their communities.

Taken from the U.S. Department of Education,
Helping Your Child Become a Responsible Citizen



Citizenship in 4-H

4-H Club Activity

Good citizens make our world a better place for everyone. Good citizens think about other people and try to do what is best for everyone. Good citizens are good neighbors and friends.

Before you do this activity, hang a large sheet of paper on the wall for people to write on. Have plenty of water soluble markers available.

Divide your club's members, leaders and parents into small groups of 5 to 8 people.

Make sure to have a mix of ages in every group. Ask each group to come up with 5 ways they could show good citizenship in their 4-H club/program, 5 ways they could show good citizenship in their school/workplace and 5 ways they could show good citizenship in their community/world.

Ask each group to report back to the club and share their ideas. After every group has reported back, ask each individual to write one citizenship action they will commit to doing on the paper and sign their name to it. Don't forget to check back occasionally and see how people are doing in fulfilling their commitment.

Adapted from University of Illinois Extension
4-H Youth Development



For Character Counts Activities please visit
www.4h.uwyo.edu

Global Citizenship

Each of us is a citizen in many different ways...we are a citizen of our town, our county, our state, and our nation. We are also a citizen of our world. The same characteristics and actions that define being a responsible citizen of our local community are the same as being a global citizen.

- Do your share to make the world better
- Stay informed and involved in global issues
- Learn about other cultures
- Practice respectful ways of communicating our cultural differences and traditions