

WYOMING CHARACTER



that's what we're made of

November 2014

Character Counts Citizenship



who are well informed. Citizens who will consider what is in the best interest of the community, even if it might not benefit them as an individual.

Good citizens do more than their "fair" share to make society work. They are concerned about today but they are also concerned about the effect of what they do today, might have on tomorrow and future generations. They are committed to the public good and make efforts to conserve resources, recycle, and clean up litter.

Good citizens are concerned about everyone in their community.

"This country will not be a good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a good place for all of us to live in".

*Theodore Roosevelt,
American adventurer and
26th president*

Definition of Citizenship?

Citizenship includes civic duties that outline how we ought to behave as part of a community. The good citizen knows the laws and obeys them, yes, but that's not all.

Good citizens stay informed about current issues that affect the community. That helps them understand the issue and to make better decisions to help solve problems. A democratic society relies on citizens



Citizenship in 4-H

Develop a 4-H Community Calendar

In small groups of mixed ages, create a list of different types of communities (i.e. church, neighborhood, school, 4-H club, etc.) Talk about what it means to be a good community member? What are the do's and don'ts of being a good community member? Ask each group to come up with 10 things that

their 4-H club could do to be a good community member? Share the ideas with the whole group.

As a club (the whole group), think about the things shared by each small group. Use those items to create a calendar focusing on good citizenship, being a good community member. As the club plans ways to demonstrate their good citizenship

remember to consider the time it will take so that you can plan it in the best month for your schedule, the budget it might require, and the amount of adult support it might need.

Have fun showing the community your 4-H Citizenship Pride.

Adapted from a lesson in the Character Counts! *Good Ideas* book.

Clover Connection

Head - be an informed citizen; get involved in community affairs; vote; respect authority; obey laws and rules.

Heart - cooperate; be a good neighbor.

Hands - do your share to make your community better; volunteer.

Health - create healthy lifestyles; protect the environment.

Like this activity? Find more like it in the "Good Ideas Book" at your local Extension Office