



4-H CITIZENSHIP ACTIVITY PAGE

Developed by **Lori Jean Mantooth**, Extension Assistant, 4-H Youth Development

Beginning

Your 4-H CITIZENSHIP Project

Did you know that you are a citizen? You are part of your family, your community, your county, your state, your country and your world. Wow! But what does that mean? Citizenship is our relationship with other people. Citizenship is how we act toward each other and how we think and feel about each other and the place where we live.

Some of the skills you can learn and activities you can do in this project are listed below. Check your favorites. Then, work with your 4-H leaders and parents to make a 4-H project plan of what you want to do and learn this year.

- Learn about your family history.
- Learn about the history of your community.
- Learn about the people who serve your community.
- Learn about the symbols of the United States of America.
- Complete a service project to benefit people in your neighborhood.
- Help family members or neighbors.
- Help with a community event, such as a picnic or festival.
- Give a citizenship demonstration in your 4-H club meeting.
- Other _____



Life Skill
Responsible
Citizenship

My Family

Every family is special. Your family may be large or small. You may all live together or some of your family members may live far away. No matter what your family looks like or where you live, your family is special.

Talk with family members about your family's history. Where do you come from? What exciting things have your relatives done?

On a separate piece of paper, draw a family tree. Include yourself and as many family members as you can. Write any interesting facts you learn about your family. Share your family tree with your 4-H friends and keep it in your 4-H project folder.

My Community, My Neighbors

Everyone's community is different. You may live in an apartment with neighbors all around. You may live in a subdivision. Or you may live on a farm, miles away from another house. Your neighbors are different ages, races, ethnic groups and religions. Their families may be large or small, and they all have different interests and talents.



What does your community look like? Who are your neighbors? Draw a map of your community. Include all the homes, businesses, churches, parks and other sites.

Visit with your neighbors. Talk to them and find out about their families, what they like to do, something interesting about them and what they like about your community. Write what you find on the map or on another piece of paper and place it in your 4-H project folder.



Symbols of America

Part of citizenship is knowing about your country's history and symbols. The United States of America has many symbols: the flag, the bald eagle, the Statue of Liberty, the Declaration of Independence and the "Star-spangled Banner," just to name a few.



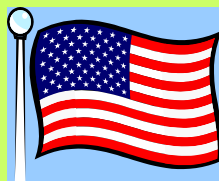
Each symbol has a long history. For example, the first American flag was made in 1776. Francis Scott Key wrote our national anthem in 1814. And the people of France gave us the Statue of Liberty in 1886.

Look in books, on the Internet or in other places to find the history of some American symbols. Make a poster about what you find and share it at a 4-H meeting.



Try This—Design Your Own Flag

Flags are designed with symbols. Everything on a flag represents something special. For example, the American flag has 13 stripes for the original 13 colonies and 50 stars for the 50 states. The flag stands for freedom, liberty and justice.



The Tennessee flag has three stars for East, Middle and West Tennessee and a white circle for unity.



Design a flag for your community. What things represent where you live? What does the flag mean to you?

Share your flag with your family, neighbors and fellow 4-H'ers.

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Helping Others

Everyone needs help sometimes. Being a good citizen means that you are willing to help other people. They can be family members, friends, neighbors or strangers.

Look around your home, in your community or even on the news. Who needs help? How could you help them? Work with your family, friends and fellow 4-H'ers to do a service project to help them. Here are a few ideas.



- Help a neighbor rake leaves, clean house or do other chores.
- Visit with an older family member or neighbor and write down stories about his or her history. Share your stories with others in your family or community.
- Create a poster about your community and display it in a public place.
- Make goody bags for people who serve your community, such as police officers or fire fighters

Service Search

In every community there are people who serve others every day. They are police officers, fire fighters, elected officials such as the mayor, teachers and others. Use the Career Scavenger Hunt below to find out about the service people in your community. Share what you learn with your 4-H friends.

Then, search for these words in the puzzle.

POLICE	L J D W Q E O M H R Q C M V F
FIRE	C O C O S Q K A S E L I Y N M
MAYOR	G I R K C U P Y G N V T R T A
PARAMEDIC	U M D T E T N O P O X Y H U I
TEACHER	W R V E N A O R B I V C Y L L
DOCTOR	D E A Q M O K R B S Z O S P C
MAIL CARRIER	I H D P Z A C K E S R U N G A
NURSE	D C I E J M R L W I V N G Y R
CITY COUNCIL	R A A F R B R A A M Z C N R R
COMMISSIONER	X E P O L I C E P M Z I V G I
SOCIAL WORKER	I T H M F O F T S O I L R X E
RESCUE SQUAD	H Q I Z B I T S F C U N K N R
ANIMAL CONTROL	S O C I A L W O R K E R A V L
	D A U Q S E U C S E R Q L U J
	C U Z D F O D G I D F E L I I



My Friends

Being a good friend is part of being a good citizen. Friends come in all shapes, colors and sizes. Who are your friends? What makes them special? What do you like to do together? Write a story about you and your friends. Include photographs or drawings with your story. Share your story with your friends and keep it in your 4-H project folder.

Don't forget to submit your project report to your 4-H leader.

Career Scavenger Hunt

By asking others, researching on the Internet, or reading a book or magazine—learn more about the people who serve your community. Choose one or more of the jobs listed above and answer the following questions:

1. Job Title _____
2. Job Description _____

3. Education Required _____

Additional Resources

Being a responsible citizen is important. If you respect others, do nice things for people and help out in your community, you are on your way to being a good citizen. This activity sheet has given you the opportunity to explore citizenship. You've studied the symbols of our country, gotten to know your neighbors, conducted a service project and learned lots of other cool things. But this is just the beginning! Use the resources listed below to continue learning about citizenship.

- School & public libraries
- People who know about citizenship, such as teachers, elected officials, police officers, volunteer leaders
- 4-H project groups
- The 4-H citizenship Web page:

<http://www.utextension.utk.edu/4h/projects/citizenship.htm>

For more ideas, contact your 4-H office.

Other 4-H Citizenship Activities

Service Projects

Tours of City or County Government Offices

4-H Family Fun Day

Reviewed by Patrick Hamilton, Extension Specialist, and members of the state 4-H Youth Development staff
Edited by Wanda Russell, Publications Editor