

Citizenship Project Area Guide

Beginner



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Activity 1

Project Outcomes Addressed

Being a Good Citizen

- Define each of the characteristics of citizenship: honesty, respect, responsibility, compassion and courage

What is citizenship?

When you think of citizenship you may think of the buzz words in the media. Which of these words have you heard before when hearing about citizenship?



bills	laws	representative	vote
community settler	politics	rights	voter
government	president	senator	
immigrant	privilege	taxpayer	

In your own words, write your definition of **citizenship**.

The dictionary defines citizenship as the position or status of being a citizen of a particular country. As a citizen we have a large number of rights and responsibilities. Scan or click the QR code to review these rights and responsibilities.



When you review the definition of citizenship and the responsibilities of citizens, what are some words that stand out to you? Write them below.

Define the following terms. Here is an online Merriam-Webster dictionary, if necessary:



Honesty: _____

Respect: _____

Responsibility: _____

Compassion: _____

Courage: _____

How do you think these terms apply to being a good citizen?

How would you describe a good citizen?

When you think of a good citizen you may think of a person who obeys the laws and also participates in improving their community.

List two people who you think are good citizens.

1. _____

2. _____

What makes them good citizens?

Did you know that if you are born in the United States of America, then you are a citizen of the USA? If you, a family member or friend is not an American citizen, scan the left and middle QR codes below to learn how to become a citizen. Did you know there is a civics test people have to take to become a citizen? Give the test a try by scanning the QR code on the right!



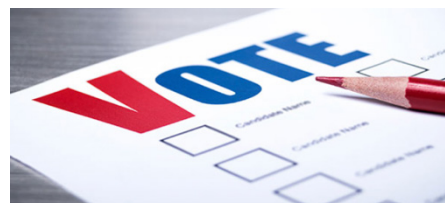
Activity 2

Project Outcomes Addressed

Understanding Government

- Describe the requirements for voting and the process of registering to vote in Tennessee

As a citizen we have many rights, such as voting. As a voter you have a chance to improve your community.



There are **four** requirements to vote in the State of Tennessee:

- Be a United States citizen
- Be a Tennessee resident
- Be at least 18 years old at the time of the election
- Not have been convicted of a felony that deems you ineligible

What do you do next?

After you meet voter qualifications you must register to vote. You can register to vote by completing a voter registration card, like the one shown below or online using the QR code on the right.



1 Are you a citizen of the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No Will you be 18 years of age or older on or before Election Day? ☐ Yes ☐ No If you answered "No" in response to either of the above, do not complete this form.		FOR COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION USE ONLY Mail _____ Reg # _____ Approved _____ Effective Date _____ P/A _____ District _____ Precinct _____ Ward _____	
2 LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____ MIDDLE NAME _____ SUFFIX _____		3 SEX ☐ M ☐ F	4 RACE (OPTIONAL)
5 ADDRESS WHERE YOU LIVE (DO NOT GIVE A P.O. BOX) _____ APT. # _____ CITY _____ COUNTY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____			
6 ADDRESS WHERE YOU GET YOUR MAIL (IF DIFFERENT THAN ABOVE) _____		7 E-MAIL (OPTIONAL) _____	
8 DATE OF BIRTH _____ CITY AND STATE OF BIRTH _____	SOCIAL SECURITY # _____ (required under T.C.A. § 2-2-116 for purposes of identification and to avoid duplicate registration)	9 PHONE # _____	
10 NAME AND ADDRESS ON LAST VOTER REGISTRATION NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ COUNTY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____			
11 VOTER DECLARATION: I, being duly sworn on oath (or affirmation) declare that the above address is my legal residence and that I plan to remain at such residence for an undetermined period of time and say that to the best of my knowledge and belief all of the statements made by me are true. 1. Are you a resident of the State of Tennessee? Yes ☐ No ☐ 2. Have you ever been convicted of a crime which is a felony in this state, by a court in this state, a court in another state, or a federal court? Yes ☐ No ☐		12 WARNING: Giving false information to register to vote or attempting to register when not qualified is a felony punishable by not less than two (2) years nor more than twelve (12) years imprisonment or a fine of \$5,000 or both. X _____ Signature (or mark) of Applicant Date _____ <i>If applicant is unable to sign, provide signature of person who signed for applicant.</i> _____ Signature of Person Assisting _____ Address	

Unfortunately, voting has not always been an option for all Americans. Learn about voting and equity by scanning the QR code on the right.





Scan the QR code on the left and watch the video to learn how electing a president works. What are the two types of votes mentioned in the video?

1. _____
2. _____

Define these new terms below.

Electoral Vote: _____

Popular Vote: _____

How many districts does the state of Tennessee have? _____

What district do you live in within your county? _____

How many electors does the state of Tennessee have? _____

You know how to vote, so let's look up where the polling locations are in your county. Scan the QR code on the right, select your county and then identify two locations.

1. _____

2. _____

If you are unable to vote in person at a polling location, you can also vote by mail. Learn more by scanning the QR code to the right.



Activity 3

Project Outcomes Addressed

Understanding Government

- Explain the importance of voting at local, state and national levels

Identifying Issues

- Identify a variety of issues in your community
- Choose one issue and research different views on that issue using a variety of sources

Now that we know how the voting process works, let's figure out how to make an informed decision when voting.

List a few things that are important to you, like school and friends.

When voting, you have an opportunity to participate in local elections, state elections and national elections, like the presidential election. To make an informed decision you will want to compare what is important to you with what is important to the candidates and learn what their mission is for those they will represent. Most people vote for the candidate whose views most closely align with their own.

It is valuable to know that every election is important and has an impact on your daily life. Each election, you have an opportunity to elect various government officials. These government officials represent you throughout your county, your state and your country.

For example, voters in Tennessee elect U.S. Senators during our state elections who represent our state at the national level. We also elect Tennessee Representatives during local government elections who write and present state bills and bring local concerns to the Tennessee government.

Do you know of any local concerns or issues in the community you live? Using your knowledge and/or a search engine, list these concerns below.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

From the concerns you listed, select one area of concern that you would like to focus on.

Now, research different views to support your opinions on the issue. Be certain to learn about views that are opposite your own. This will allow for you to better understand others' perspectives, issues they may personally face and how to better support your view. Remember, you can appreciate others' viewpoints without sacrificing your values and you can express your views without being disrespectful to others.

Use at least three resources to support your view. At least one of your sources must be a scholarly article. List all your resources below.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Use the space below to further understand your community issue.

Your Views	Others' Views

Activity 4

Project Outcomes Addressed

Identifying Issues

- Express your opinion on a current issue facing your community in a way that is respectful of others' opinions that may differ from yours
- Explain the value in considering multiple perspectives on controversial policy issues

Using the information you have researched to support your area of concern, write a mock letter to a government official in the space below. Explain the issue your community is facing and the possible solutions to address it. Upload your letter to your digital 4-H portfolio.

What was the value of considering multiple perspectives on the controversial issue? How did it help you write your letter?

Activity 5

Project Outcomes Addressed

Understanding Government

- List local, state and federal elected officials for your community
- Define the following terms as they relate to government: town, village, city, municipality, county

You know the importance of each election. Now you need to learn what some of these government officials do.

Each government official represents a town, village, city, and/or county. Define the terms below. You can use the dictionary from Activity 1.



Town:

Village:

City:

County:

In which do you live? _____

Hint: You may have more than one answer

A **municipality** is the unit of government/power status for the community types listed above. For a better understanding scan the QR code on the left.



Define the position of each government official in your own words. You can use the dictionary from Activity 1 if you get stuck.

Governor: _____

How long is their term? _____

Senator: _____

How long is their term? _____

Representative: _____

How long is their term? _____

Council Member: _____

How long is their term? _____

Now that you know the definition and terms of some government officials, let's learn which government officials represent you!

Who is Tennessee's governor? _____

Who are Tennessee's senators? _____

Who is your county mayor? _____

Who is your county representative? _____

Where is your county voting site? _____

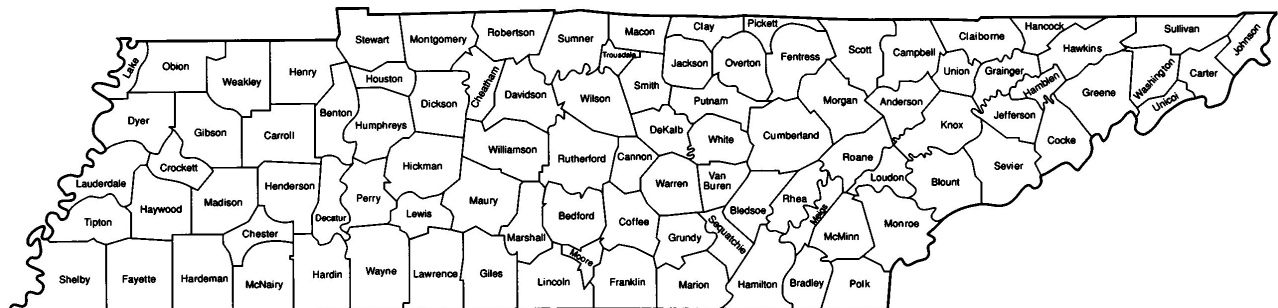
Which one of the government officials mentioned above would you send your community issue letter to?

Name: _____

Office Held (Ex. governor): _____

Office located (Ex. courthouse): _____

Using the map below of the state of Tennessee, color in your county, draw a star at your county seat and circle the state capitol.



Does the mayor or governor work in your county seat? _____

Does the mayor or governor work in the state capitol? _____

Activity 6

Project Outcomes Addressed

My Hands to Larger Service

- List opportunities to provide service in your local community

Community and Your Place Within It

- Research ways you can become involved in your local community
- Improve your local community through service
- Define community and list all of the communities to which you

As a citizen, one of our duties is to help make our community better. A **community** can be any group of people sharing the same interest or location. This could be a school community, a work community, a sport community, etc.

Take some time to list below all the communities you are part of:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

For this activity, we will focus on the local community in which you live.

When you hear the term “community service” what do you think of?



Scan the QR code to the left to use the dictionary to define community service. Write the definition below.

As a citizen you have the opportunity to improve your community by serving in many ways, no matter how small they may seem.

List some ways you can serve your community:



By scanning the QR code to the left, look at “Ways to Serve” from first lady Maria Lee for more ideas. Did you know that each month first lady Maria Lee has a monthly service challenge? Each month try to participate in a service project and track your hours on the table on the next page.

For the months of June and July, log in your hours for the #TNKidsServeSummerChallenge for a chance to attend a celebration at the Tennessee Residence with Governor and first lady Lee.



Month	Service Project	Hours Complete	Adult Sign Off

Activity 7

Project Outcomes Addressed

Being a Good Citizen

- Explain what it means to be a global citizen
- Compare service efforts of national civic organizations
- List global service organizations and classify them based on what types of service they provide

When learning to serve, it's important to know that serving does not have to stop in your community. We pledge our hands to larger service for our club, community, country and world.

Global citizenship is understanding the world around you and your place in it. This means you are actively working to develop and share an understanding of the cultures and norms of other countries.

As a Tennessee 4-H member, you can practice global citizenship through service projects that benefit youth in other nations, engaging in international learning experiences and developing a better understanding of people and their culture.

A service project, whether global or local, can be placed into three categories: 1) direct service, 2) indirect service, and 3) advocacy.

Direct service: Individuals performing service have direct contact with the people or environment with which they are working. Example: serving in a soup kitchen.

Indirect service: Individuals send resources and supplies to an area or people, but do not have direct contact with the individuals. Example: holding food drives.

Advocacy: Individuals bring awareness to an issue and inspire others to take action. Example: working with government officials to make changes to laws.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, people from all over the world came together for the “One World: Together at Home” campaign.

Why do you think this campaign is considered a global service project?



There are many global service projects around the world working for great causes. Can you think of any other global service projects? Use your own knowledge and a search engine, if need be, to generate a list of five global service projects that are important to you.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Why are these service projects important to you?

How can you assist with these service projects?

Now, place your five global service projects in the correct category. Global service projects may fall under two categories.

Direct	Indirect	Advocacy

What category do you think the “One World: Together at Home” service project best falls into?

Activity 8

Project Outcomes Addressed

My Hands to Larger Service

- Define civic engagement and relate it to your project work
- Compare and contrast volunteerism and civic engagement

Keeping service to others in mind, in the next two activities, you will look at three different methods of service that are commonly used.

In this activity, you will establish your personal definition of **civic engagement** and relate that to your project work.

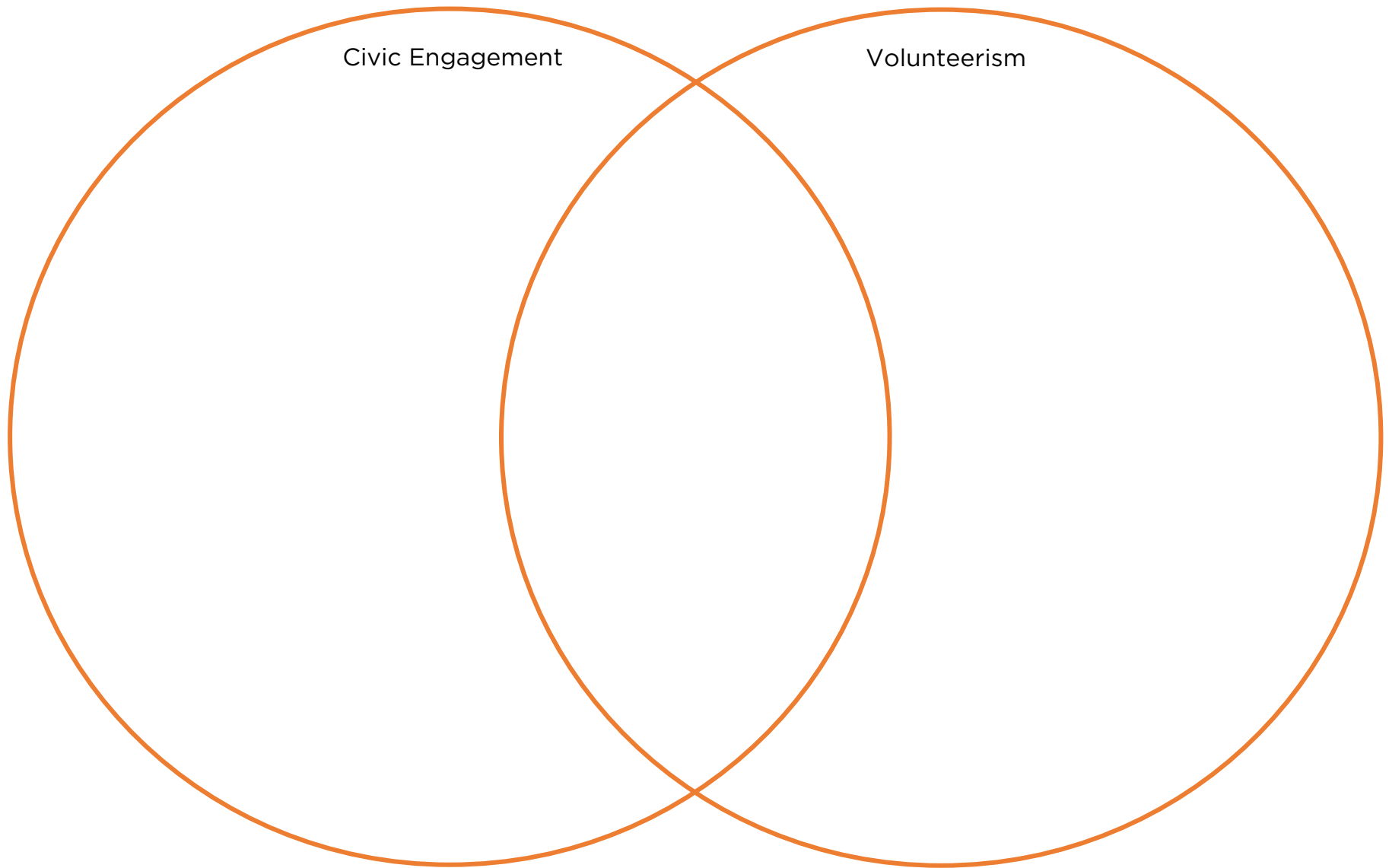
Civic engagement is working to make a difference in the lives of people in our community and developing knowledge, skills and attitudes for others to make a difference.

Using this definition as a guide, express what this means to you.

How does civic engagement relate to your project area?

Volunteerism is defined as the practice of volunteering one's time or talents for charitable, educational or other worthwhile activities, especially in one's community.

Using the definitions for civic engagement and volunteerism, complete the Venn diagram below to compare and contrast these two activities. Share the ways you use civic engagement on your digital 4-H portfolio.



Activity 9

Project Outcomes Addressed

My Hands to Larger Service

- Describe the steps of the service-learning model

The service-learning model is another model used to provide service to others, especially in 4-H. This model focuses on five different steps that should take place before, during and after a service activity.

In this activity, you will learn the five steps and list examples of activities to be performed with each step.

Below, list two activities that could be used with each step in the service-learning model. The name and definition of each step have been provided for you.

Step 1: Context and Preparation

In this step, you will decide on a service activity and gather all necessary materials to prepare for the activity.

In this step, I would...

Service Activity 1. _____ (Choose an activity)

Check list of materials and steps needed:

Materials	Steps

Service Activity 2. _____ (Choose an activity)

Check list of materials and steps needed:

Materials	Steps

Step 2: Service Activity

This step is when you complete your service activities listed in Step 1.

In this step, I would... (discuss what you did)

Service 1:

Service 2:

Step 3: Reflection

After completing an activity, you then reflect on the service you performed and how it made you feel. This time try to answer what you should do in the parenthesis, as it has been done above in the previous steps. Use your service activities from the previous two steps.

In this step, I would... (_____)

Service 1:

Service 2:

Step 4: Evaluation

Here you will talk about what went well and what can be improved for next time. This time try to answer what you should do in the parenthesis, as it has been done above in the previous steps. Continue to use your service activities from the previous steps.

In this step, I would... (_____)

Service 1:

Service 2:

Step 5: Celebration

This step allows you to celebrate a job well done!

In this step, I would... (_____)

Service 1:

Service 2:

Activity 10

Project Outcomes Addressed

Being a Good Citizen

- Create a poster or interactive exhibit that describes why it is important to be a good citizen

You have learned so much about citizenship throughout these nine activities. Now it is time to teach others about your newly gained knowledge by creating a poster or interactive exhibit that describes why it is important to be a good citizen.

To count your poster or interactive exhibit as a service project, be sure to upload it to your digital 4-H portfolio.

Review the provided guidelines for either a poster or interactive exhibit.

Exhibit	Poster
The exhibit should showcase knowledge gained, or a technique or skill learned.	4-H Citizenship Project area should be the topic of your poster.
It should be self-explanatory. Someone should be able to know what your exhibit is teaching without you giving step by step instructions.	Poster should be 14in x 22in (roughly a poster board cut in half).
A free-standing tri-fold board should be used for an interactive exhibit.	Three dimensional (3-D) objects or materials should not extend 1/8 inch or more above the surface of the poster (roughly two nickels stacked on top of each other).
Use pictures and/or diagrams to help explain.	Posters must be horizontal.
Use words/writing to explain.	Well known cartoon characters cannot be used due to copyright laws.

Congratulations!

You have completed the Beginning Citizenship Project Curriculum! By completing this project book, you have learned about yourself, your community and service. You have gained new skills and started to develop the thoughts and attitudes of an engaged citizen of your community, country and world. Continue to seek opportunities to apply what you have learned in your project work so far and learn new things along the way.



Scan the QR code to the left for more information on the Tennessee 4-H Citizenship project page, including the project outcomes and curriculum for the Intermediate level.



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