

Lesson Plan on Citizenship

Ask the students if they know anything about citizenship?

Part 1: Definitions: "Puzzle Game"

- ☺ Give each group a bag of puzzle pieces
 - Each bag contains puzzle pieces when put together forms a definition of the term (citizen or citizenship)
 - The students need to work together to form the definition

Definitions of a Citizen:

The World Book Dictionary

-a person who by birth or by choice is a member of a state or nation which gives him certain rights and which claims his loyalty

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary for Kids

-a person who lives in a city or town
-a member of a state
-a person who owes allegiance to a government and is protected by it

Cambridge Dictionary

-a person who is a member of a particular country and who has rights because of being born there or because of being given rights, or a person who lives in a particular town or city

Definitions of Citizenship:

The World Book Dictionary

-the duties, rights, and privileges of a citizen
-the condition of being a citizen

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary for Kids

-possession of the rights and privileges of a citizen
-the quality of a person's response to a membership in a community

Cambridge Dictionary

-the state of being a member of a particular country and having rights because of it
-the state of living in a particular area or town and behaving in a way that other people who live there expect of

you

- ☺ We decided to also define the term "citizen"
 - We thought to really understand the term citizenship; we need to understand what it means to be a citizen
- ☺ We will then think about what these definitions mean

Part 2: Communities and The Responsibilities:

- Ask the students: **What are some communities that you belong to?**
 - School
 - Home
 - Sports teams
 - Dance teams etc.
- ☺ **What types of responsibilities (Rules of Good Citizenship) goes along with being a part of these communities?**
 - Sharing with others
 - Responsibility

- Taking care of the world around us
- Being a good friend and neighbor
- Treating everyone with respect
- Honesty
- Kindness
- Cooperation
- Patience
- Generosity
- Respect of things that do not belong to us

☺ **Why do you think we have these rules and responsibilities?**

Part 3: Role Playing: (we thought it would be better if Rachel and I acted these skits out, using students when needed. Our original idea was to have the students pick a situation out of a hat and as a group act them out but we thought this would take too much time)

☺ **Skits:**

-You are just coming in from gym class and are really thirsty. You notice there is a long line at the drinking fountain. You see a friend of yours way in the front of the line. You know that your other classmates are thirsty too but you decide to cut in front of your friend so you do not have to wait.

-While on your way home with a couple of your good buddies you decide to stop at your favorite candy store. Your friend notices that the store owner steps out of the backroom and decides that they could quickly stuff their pockets with candy before she even notices what they have done. You decide that you do not want to take the chance of getting caught and walk out of the candy store without any candy.

-You borrow a great book from your classroom library. By accident, you spilled chocolate milk all over the book. You try your best to clean the book. The next day when you are at school you decide when the teacher and the other students are not looking to sneak the book out of your backpack and back on the shelf, hoping that no one had noticed.

-It is the last inning of the championship game. Bases are loaded and your team has already two outs. A teammate who is not very good is up to bat. The rest of your team moans. One strike... two strikes... your teammate struck out and your team lost the championship game. The other teammates start yelling at teammate, saying "Good job you lost it for us!" Your teammate feels horrible and sits at the bench crying. Even though you are upset about losing the game, you walk over and sit next to your crying teammate. You put your arm around them and say, "It is okay, you will hit it next time!"

-You are walking down the hallway and notice \$10 fell accidentally out of their back pocket. You pick it up and look both ways to make sure no one is looking. You put the \$10 in your pocket figuring that they won't miss it and you need it more.

-At home you and a couple of your buddies are playing ball in the house. You remember you are not suppose to but figure that nothing bad will happen and you will stop before anyone comes home. You are diving for a ball and accidentally knock over your sister's science project, which she had worked on all weekend to finish. It falls to the ground and breaks. You decide it is better to stop playing and you hide the broke project, hoping your sister won't ask. When your sister finds the broke project she asks you what happen. You tell her that the dog did it. Later you feel bad for lying and decide to tell her the truth. You also are willing to help her fix the broke project.

☺ **After each skit is over, we will ask the students a series of questions:**

- **Was this an example of good citizenship?**
- **If so, what way was the example of good citizenship?**
- **If not, what way could we change the situation to make it positive?**

Part 4: Writing Assignment:

- ☺ Ask the students: **Now after seeing a few examples of what makes good citizen, think of a time when you were seen as being a good citizen to the community**
 - **How did you feel?**
 - **Was it easy to do the right thing?**
 - **Why did you do what you did?**
- ☺ Rachel and I will give an example of one of our experiences of being seen as a good citizen and will use the sandwich chart to explain the experience.
- ☺ We will write with them a sample 1st paragraph
- ☺ We will ask the students to draw a picture of their experience

Part 5: Display of the Students Experiences:

- ☺ The students will be able to display their experiences around the enlarged "Award for Good Citizenship" awarded to Ms. Fetter's 3rd Grade Classroom

HOW TO BE A GOOD CITIZEN

Do your share to make your school, your community, and the world a better place. .

- ✚ Take responsibility for what goes on around you.
- ✚ Participate in community service.
- ✚ Help take care of the environment.
- ✚ Be a good neighbor.
- ✚ Treat other people with respect and dignity.
- ✚ Follow the rules of your family, your school, and your society

A time when I was seen as a good citizen is when I decided to organize a blood drive.

One early fall evening when I was watching the news with my parents, I noticed a news story. The news story was about the extreme shortage of blood that hospitals and other medical facilities were facing. A woman from the American Red Cross announced that much of today's Michigan citizens are so caught up in their busy lives that they forget to donate blood, especially during the holidays. She also announced that the American Red Cross was looking for willing individuals to set up and organize a blood drive in their local community.

I always wanted to make a difference in my community and help those in need. I thought this was a perfect way to achieve that goal. The next day at work I asked my manager if he minded if I organized a local blood drive, over Labor Day weekend. He thought that it was a great idea. After I got approval from my manager I called American Red Cross and told them that I was interested in organizing a local blood drive at my workplace. They shared their deepest sincere appreciation.

The next couple weeks approaching the day of the blood drive, I was busy making and handing out fliers for the blood drive. I was also busy scheduling appointments of when volunteers were willing to come in and donate.

The day of the blood drive I had to be at work at 6am in the morning. I helped the nice volunteers set up the room for the blood donations. When it was time for the blood drive to begin, I was busy processing volunteers in who were willing to donate blood.

Even though the day of and the days approaching the blood drive were extremely busy and a lot of work, it all paid off. We passed our goal of having 25 donors by having 34 donors. We also gave 29 pints of life-saving blood which was given to 87 hospital patients who will now have a chance to regain their health.

I have now organized 2 local blood drives and will continue to serve my community!

