

# CITIZENSHIP

## Parent Resource

### What is citizenship?

Citizenship means helping my neighbor, community and nation.

As your child gets older, he or she will have opportunities to make choices that impact the school, community and nation.

#### In grades six to eight, children begin:

- ✓ Developing a sense of pride in accomplishments and awareness of challenges.
- ✓ Gaining an understanding of his or her civic responsibility and how values inform decisions.
- ✓ Understanding there could be a need to help others at school and in the community.

#### Below are ways you can help your child learn, practice and demonstrate citizenship:

##### ASK FOR EXAMPLES

Volunteering can foster a sense of responsibility and pride in your community. It strengthens the community when everyone works together. Ask your child how he or she can demonstrate good citizenship through volunteerism.

##### EXAMPLE

For example, your child can organize a cleanup event at the local park or beach to build leadership skills and benefit the community.

##### DISCUSS THE QUALITIES OF A GOOD LEADER

Discuss with your child the qualities of a leader from American history such as a U.S. President or a Founding Father. Ask your child to think about the qualities he or she shares with this leader. How can your child further develop these qualities?

### SKILLS TO CONSIDER PRACTICING WITH YOUR CHILD:



Identifying the importance of informed civic responsibility in positively affecting your local community and nation.



Discussing ways a leader can build the trust of individuals and groups through honesty and responsible decision-making.



### ACTIVITY TO DO WITH YOUR CHILD

Visit the Volunteer Florida website ([volunteerflorida.org](http://volunteerflorida.org)) and explore the various resources and information about volunteerism. Click on "Volunteer Services," then "Find Volunteer Opportunities" to check out different opportunities in your local community. Consider a way you can volunteer together!

HELPING YOUR CHILD UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF CITIZENSHIP WILL PREPARE HIM OR HER TO CONTRIBUTE TO AND TAKE PRIDE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND NATION.