CITIZENSHIP

Parent Resource

GRADES
9–12

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 nine through twelve, children begin or continue:

- Demonstrating effective and respectful communication skills and strategies.
- Understanding the importance of civic participation.
- Refining plans for career paths or areas of study.

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

TALK ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is a great way to exemplify good citizenship. Discuss ways that volunteering provides benefits for the organization and the volunteers (for example, exploring potential civic interests or career paths and meeting new people while helping others).

DISCUSS THE BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Volunteerism and leadership positions not only help build citizenship but can also lead to scholarship opportunities after high school. Did you know that the Bright Futures Scholarship Program has helped more than 950,000 Florida students achieve academic goals? Check out **floridabrightfutures.gov** for the number of volunteer hours (or paid work hours) needed for each scholarship level.

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

SKILLS TO CONSIDER PRACTICING WITH YOUR CHILD:

Identifying benefits of voting, volunteering, mentoring and seeking leadership positions.

Analyzing ways a leader can inspire and motivate others to be active in their community.

ACTIVITY FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

Visit the Volunteer Florida website (**volunteerflorida.org**) together 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. Make sure to check in with your student's school counselor to find out how to keep track of service hours for the Bright Futures Scholarship Program!

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