

# A PARENT'S GUIDE TO CITIZENSHIP



- Do your share to make your school and community better.
- Cooperate.
- Get involved in community affairs.
- Stay informed. Vote.
- Be a good neighbor.
- Obey laws and rules. Respect authority.
- Protect the environment.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO AT HOME

- Practice citizenship in action: be informed. Model how to “stay up” on current events by reading the paper or watching television news, attending local meetings of importance and talking about issues as a family.
- Have a family plan to regularly protect and conserve resources. For example: recycle, plant trees, don't litter.
- Set family goals. Have each member of the family complete the following sentence and post it where it will serve as a reminder: I will be a good citizen by: \_\_\_\_\_.

## PARENTS CAN PROMOTE CITIZENSHIP

- Develop a family mission statement that includes service to others.
- Encourage extra-curricular activities that promote cooperation and good team-work.
- Encourage volunteerism and service-learning on a consistent and constant basis. Provide opportunities for children to reflect on their service: talk about or draw pictures about what they did, how it felt and why it matters to help others.
- Allow opportunities for reflection by writing, reading, and discussing the importance of social responsibility and global awareness.

## FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

Being a citizen comes with rights, duties and privileges. With every right comes the responsibility to exercise it in a fair manner and to help fellow citizens do the same.

## TO HELP YOU TEACH THE SIX PILLARS

Focus Area: The Internet

The internet is a valuable tool for our society, but it also brings increased duties for acting as a responsible citizen within the new global community. Your child needs your guidance to maximize the benefit of the internet as a tool for education and communication while staying responsible and safe. As a parent, you should know what sites your child is visiting, who they are emailing or instant messaging, and what email they are receiving. Installing a spam filter and privacy filters will help protect your child from solicitation. For more information, visit Media Technology for Parents at [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org).

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil  
is for good people to do nothing.”

-Edmond Burke