Unit 1: We The People: A Government of Citizens

Section 8.1.10 – Identify personal traits of good citizens.

Section 8.1.11 – Identify ways citizens participate in community service.

Section 8.1.12 – Identify the skills involved in effective participation in civic life.

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| **Character Trait** | **Definition** |
| Honesty/  Trustworthiness | * doing the right thing, even when no one is looking at you. * when others feel comfortable trusting you. * Honest people quickly develop trustworthiness with other people. |
| Patriotism | * is a sense of love, duty, and respect for one’s country. * True patriots serve their country as civil servants, volunteers, or service men and women. * Patriotism can determine things like security clearance for high-level government jobs-secret service and Navy Seals |
| Respect | * is one of the most important things good citizens can show to one another. * influences all of the other traits of good citizenship. * can help form other people’s opinions of you, as well as good first impressions |
| Responsibility/  Accountability | * owning up to your actions and accepting consequences, good or bad. * Others can hold people accountable, for example: if they break the rules, or they do something incorrectly. |
| Obedience | * conforming to rules and submitting to authority or doing what you are told. * Good citizens exercise obedience by obeying the laws of the land where they live. |
| Courtesy | * showing politeness and being considerate of others. * Good citizens are courteous to those around them. * Citizens can show courtesy by being polite to others. |
| Self-Reliance | * when one takes responsibility for their own welfare. * Self-reliant people don’t need to depend on others for their day-to-day living. * Self-reliant people prepare themselves during easy times for hard times down the road. |
| Turn and Talk | How can do you think that YOU can participate in community service? |
| Ways for citizens to participate in community service: | * volunteering for organizations * volunteering for public service organizations * tutoring * expressing concern about public issues * Good citizens participate in making society better by performing community service. * Community service is not just limited to voluntary acts-sometimes it can be given as a punishment for a crime. |
| Identify skills involved in effective participation in civic life. | * formulating questions * analyzing information * expressing a position * devising and implementing a plan |
| Turn and Talk | Why are these citizenship skills important to YOU?  When could YOU use these citizenship skills and how? |
| Time to think… | We have talked about duties, responsibilities, and personal character traits of citizens. Can you think of any citizen that does not need to follow the duties and responsibilities of citizenship? Why do we need to follow the duties and responsibilities? |
| Fundamental principle of democratic government | Rule of Law: Citizens are bound to follow all laws.  **NO ONE IS ABOVE THE LAW!** |