

# Family Newsletter

Dear Parent:

All of us live together in a society in which each has various rights and responsibilities. Often we can focus on our “rights” while neglecting our responsibilities. These responsibilities include being concerned not with what we can get but rather with what we can give to help others. Enclosed are simple ways to integrate the character skill of citizenship in your home.

## Citizenship Defined:

(1) Being involved in trying to make the world a better place, engaged in big and small ways in helping others. (2) Actions and attitudes which reflect pride in being part of a community; showing good citizenship means being law-abiding and involved in service to school, community and country.

## Service Ideas to Do as a Family

- **Working on a Current Issue:** Find a current issue or problem you are personally concerned about. Discuss this concern with your family and together come up with actions you can do as a family to address the issue.
- **Family of Good Citizens:** Good citizenship involves doing things that show care for your community. Have all family members discuss what they do or have done in the past to be good citizens.
- **Choosing an Issue:** As a family, discuss various issues or needs that family members are concerned about. Make a list of the issues and some possible actions your family could take to try to help solve the problem. As a family, decide on one issue and start working on it!
- **Volunteer!** Visit <http://www.volunteermatch.org/> for more information.



Character Education: Elementary

November



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## Character Check

- In what ways do you feel that you show the qualities of good citizenship?
- Which quality of citizenship is the most difficult for you? Why?
- How have you helped make your community a better place?
- How can you encourage your child to demonstrate that qualities of good citizenship?

## Dinner Discussions

### Discussion Ideas for Meals Together

As you eat meals together discuss and share:

- What makes people a good citizen?
- What is sometimes difficult about being a good citizen?
- The names of political leaders in your community, state, and nation. Discuss positive choices they have made that reflect