



Citizenship is about making a positive difference in your community and understanding the rights and responsibilities of being an active citizen! The 4-H Citizenship project provides resources to help youth of all ages develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to be engaged, informed, and responsible members of society.

By exploring topics such as: understanding government and civic processes; participating in community service; learning leadership and public speaking skills; exploring cultural diversity; and planning and conducting community improvement projects, youth will gain the tools necessary to be successful in the 4-H Citizenship Program. Discover how you can make a difference with the 4-H Citizenship Program!

Starting Out Beginner

Understand the basic rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including voting and community participation.

Identify local government structures and leaders in your community.

Participate in at least one community service project to gain experience in helping others.

Learn basic public speaking skills to express ideas about improving your community.

Explore the concept of diversity and why it is important in creating a strong community.

Learning More Intermediate

Analyze the role of state and national governments and how they affect local communities.

Plan and lead a small community service project with peers, such as a cleanup or donation drive.

Practice advanced public speaking by preparing and delivering a speech on a community issue.

Explore ways to engage others in civic activities, such as voter registration or awareness campaigns.

Research and present on a cultural tradition or issue that affects your community.

Exploring Depth Advanced

Develop and lead a comprehensive community improvement project addressing a specific need in your area.

Engage in advocacy by meeting with local government leaders to discuss solutions for a community challenge.

Mentor younger 4-H members in citizenship-related activities, teaching them about leadership and community service.

Participate in or organize a mock government simulation to understand decision-making processes.

Develop a plan to promote inclusivity and cultural understanding within your community/organization.

4-H Thrive

Positive Youth Development

Developing Competence

Adults create environments where youth can develop competence in their chosen project area.

Building Confidence

Youth build confidence as they learn to think for themselves, build mastery, and are recognized for their efforts.

Nurturing Caring

Adults nurture a caring environment where mutual trust between youth and adults is established. Caring relationships with adults are key to resilient youth.

Finding Connection

Youth build solid connections which are critical to their well-being.

Forming Character

Create a community where youth play an active role in developing their character.

Determining Contribution

Youth actively contribute to their clubs and communities.

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an equal opportunity
institution.***



- **Attend a municipal or county board meeting** to observe local government decision-making in action.
- **Interview a local elected official** to understand the issues facing your community and how they are addressed.
- **Serve as a student intern Poll Worker** during a local election to learn about the voting process.
- **Visit your state capital** to learn about the legislative process and meet with state representatives.
- **Conduct a survey of your neighbors** to identify community concerns and share the results with local leaders.
- **Organize a voter registration drive** to encourage civic participation in your community.
- **Shadow a county or municipal employee** to learn about their role in serving the community.
- **Create a guide for new residents** to help them get involved in community events and activities.
- **Plan a town hall meeting for youth** to discuss issues and concerns with local leaders.
- **Start a community improvement project**, such as planting trees or cleaning up a park.
- **Research and present on the history of your community**, focusing on its growth and development.
- **Participate in a mock election** to learn about campaigning, voting, and election processes.
- **Volunteer with a nonprofit organization** that addresses community issues such as hunger, housing, or education.
- **Host a citizenship trivia night** to teach peers about government and civic engagement.
- **Develop a proposal for a local policy change** and present it to a city or county official.
- **Create an educational display or presentation** about the importance of voting and civic participation.
- **Help organize a cultural festival or event** to celebrate diversity in your community.
- **Write a letter to the editor** of your local newspaper about a community issue that matters to you.
- **Participate in a Leadership Day at the state capital**, if available in your state.
- **Volunteer at a local civic organization**, such as a Rotary Club or Chamber of Commerce.
- **Develop a social media campaign** to promote civic engagement and community service among peers.
- **Organize a community forum** to discuss topics such as safety, education, or the environment.
- **Attend a court hearing** to learn about the judicial system and its role in your community.
- **Plan a celebration for a civic holiday**, like Constitution Day or Veterans Day, to raise awareness.

Resources

1. KEYS to Community Curriculum
2. Mississippi County Government Book
3. Municipal Government Book
4. U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services [Naturalization Test and Study Resources](#)
5. [iCivics Resources](#)
6. [4-H Civic Engagement](#)

Connections & Events

For Juniors

Project Achievement Day Contests

For Seniors

Citizenship Bowl at 4-H Club Congress

4-H Record Book

4-H members practice skills in data collection, organization, and analysis as they document their project activities and goals in their record books. The books provide practical information as well as highlight progress made toward goals.

Juniors and Seniors can enter the state record book competition.