

What is a Citizen?

Who do you consider to be an effective citizen?

Kinds of Citizens

- Personally Responsible
- Participatory
- Justice Oriented

Personally Responsible

- Acts responsibly in his/her community
- Works and pays taxes
- Obeys laws
- Recycles, gives blood
- Volunteers to lend a hand in times of crisis.

Participatory

- Active member of community organization and/or improvement efforts
- Organizes community efforts to care for those in need, promote economic development or clean-up environment
- Knows how government agencies work
- Knows strategies for accomplishing collective tasks

Justice Oriented

- Critically assesses social, political, and economic structures to see beyond surface causes
- Seeks out and addresses areas of injustice
- Knows about social movements and how to effect systemic change

Three Kinds of Citizens

- What are the three categories of an effective citizen described in the reading?
- In your opinion, which of these categories would be most important in a democracy?
- Do you think that the three categories of citizens can work together in a democratic society? Why or why not?

Sample Actions

Personally Responsible	Participatory	Justice Oriented
Contributes food to a food drive 	Helps to organize a food drive 	Explores why people are hungry and acts to solve root causes 

Core Assumptions

Personally Responsible	Participatory	Justice Oriented
<i>To solve social problems and improve society citizens must ...</i>		
have good character; they must be honest, responsible, and law-abiding members of the community	actively participate and take leadership positions within established systems and community structures	question and change established systems and structures when they reproduce patterns of injustice over time

Brainstorming Tips

- Say anything that comes to mind.
- Do not judge or criticize what others say.
- Build on each other's ideas.

- What does an effective citizen need to **KNOW**?
(How laws are made, etc.)
- What **SKILLS** does an effective citizen need?
(Speaking, etc.)
- What **ATTITUDES** (beliefs, values, outlooks) does an effective citizen need? (Belief that one person can make a difference, etc.)
- What does an effective citizen need to **DO**?
(Behaviors like voting, etc.)

For Your Consideration...

- How does **knowledge** of citizenship traits promote effective citizenship?
- Which citizenship traits apply to **you**?
- How can you apply these traits to **your service experience**? Be specific.
