

Summary: Citizens Make a Difference

Citizens Can Help

Every day, people in your community help one another. Helping others is part of being a good citizen. There are many ways you can be a good citizen. You can speak up to make things fair. You can obey laws or help change them to make them more fair. You can help keep parks clean. Good citizens work together to make their communities better places to live. Some people help by working as volunteers. Solving community problems together is a way to work for the common good.

Students Help Others

Some Arizona students wanted to help their community. They shared ideas and talked to community leaders. They decided to build a house for a family in their town. The students worked with Habitat for Humanity, a volunteer group that helps families build houses. First the students made a plan. Next, they raised money for supplies and materials. They washed cars, sold T-shirts, and held a dance. The students also asked the community to help. Businesses gave them money and supplies. Carpenters and painters taught them how to build and paint. Volunteers helped build the house. The family helped build, too. Everyone worked for the common good.



Before You Read

Find and underline each vocabulary word.

common good *noun*, whatever helps the most people in a community

volunteer *noun*, a person who works for free, without pay



After You Read

REVIEW In what ways can students practice good citizenship? Circle the sentences that tell you the answer.

REVIEW What steps did students take before starting to build the house? Highlight four sentences that tell the answer.