

## 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.

Good citizens obey laws or help change them to make them better. They do not litter. They obey speed limits and walk within crosswalks when crossing the street. Good citizens work together to make their communities better places.

Good citizens work together for the common good. They care about others. A person can help by working as a volunteer. Some people form large nonprofit groups to work for the common good. The Red Cross is a nonprofit group that helps people after bad things happen, such as floods or droughts.

### Students Help Others

Good citizens in Tennessee and all over the United States help their communities. In Paradise Valley, Arizona, students and volunteers helped their community by building houses. The students decided to build a house for a family in their town. They 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.

**citizen** *noun*, an official member of a community, state, or nation

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

**volunteer** *noun*, a person who works freely, without pay

**nonprofit** *adjective*, not for money



### After You Read

**REVIEW** In what ways can people practice good citizenship?

Circle the sentences that tell how people can be good citizens.

**REVIEW** How did the students and volunteers in Paradise Valley show good citizenship? Highlight the sentence that tells what they did.