

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 show public virtue.

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 showed public virtue.



Before You Read

Find and underline each vocabulary word.

public virtue *noun*,
doing something for
the good of the
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.