

“One way to be a good citizen is to teach your children about how to make the right decisions. When you teach your children how to make the right decisions, then they will also become a good citizen.

Another thing that makes a good citizen is when you stand up for yourself and your beliefs. But not just *your* beliefs, the beliefs of others too. If you don't stand up for yourself, then no one will. But if you think about it closely, every person's voice counts. Every person has a voice to share their opinions and beliefs. So, when you think of citizenship, you have to think about others before yourself. We are the ones who choose whether we want to be responsible for something. So now, after all these examples of how to be a good citizen and how to have good citizenship, maybe you can start thinking about how *you* can become a good citizen.”

- Leeya P., Grade 6

“I think that being a good citizen means getting involved in your community. For example, you can make a donation to a local animal shelter, volunteer somewhere that helps homeless people, or you can help people who are struggling with addiction. I think that being a good citizen means knowing who to vote for. Don't just vote for someone because you know them. Get info about what your city needs because you need to know what your representative will do if they get elected. I think that being a good citizen also means that you need to look out for your fellow citizens. You can't just sit there and do nothing if your neighbor has a big problem and they need help. If they need a medic, get a medic, if they need a phone and theirs is broken, let them use yours. If you can do anything to help someone, then help them.

Finally, I think that being a good citizen means doing the right thing. Maybe it's not for you, but it's for the bigger cause. You should protest for what you think is right. For example, take the women's march, many people joined together to protest the unfair treatment of women by our new president. Some people were scared to do the women's march for the fear that they would be in danger, but they joined the march and did it for the bigger cause of our country.”

- Malka A.A., Grade 6

“A good citizen takes care of everyone - their families, their friends, and their neighbors. For example, a good citizen would take care of a neighbor’s plants or something like that; family always sticks together, and friends are until the end. Another example is I babysat my neighbor's dog, Damien - he is the cutest. A good citizen will also join the army and get involved with problems in the world.”

- Meir B., Grade 6

“Being a citizen requires maturity, intelligence, respect, and much more. Maturity is one of the very important factors. It requires paying bills, taking care of your family, and staying humble. Being smart is also a very important quality when it comes to being a citizen. One reason is because you have to make decisions. You will also have to put together your bills and do the math. One common household item everyone should have is respect. You should respect your family, the government, even your enemies (you never know when they'll drop a bomb on you.) It's also important to read what you say before you say it because, in the world we live in, everything's offensive. If you want to make a better place, search up tabs for a cause, donate some money, go vegan, stop using single-use plastic bags and then dropping them wherever you please.”

- Ronin S., Grade 6

“A good citizen needs to be helpful. For example, if there's a fire, don't just run out and save yourself, wake up your roommate and help them outside too. A citizen should be honest and trustworthy because if you lie to your friends then they won't trust you. As a good citizen, you should also protect your environment, because it's your home and the trees help you to breath and you will feel better about yourself. I think good citizens should also respect other people's property like they want their things to be treated.”

- Shirley H.I., Grade 6