



COMMUNITY CITIZENSHIP AWARD



PROJECT: MY COMMUNITY

GOALS

A. COMMUNITY CHALLENGE: Complete 1 of the 5 community challenges in order to learn about your town or city.

A. COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

You are a part of a larger community that lives in the same area. You and your community share a government, local services, and are part of a common history. It is time to get to know your community! Pick one of the below projects to complete to learn about your city or town.

Option 1—Master Public Transportation

With an adult family member, use a form of public transportation.

Step 1—Destination

Pick a fun destination (such as a park or activity center) that is across town or far enough away that you could not easily walk or bike to it.

Step 2—Route

As a team, determine how to get from your house to the destination using public transportation. Travel to the closest bus/train/subway stop to your house.

Step 3—Prepare

- Bus:** On the bus system website, lookup the correct fees and bus number for your chosen route. Print out a route map to take with you. Make sure to stand on the correct side of the street for your bus to head the correct direction. Take correct change!
- Train:** Go to the ticket office and ask which stop to get off at for your destination or refer to a directory map. Note if a transfer is needed and if additional funds are needed to transfer. Some systems are cash only; some are credit card only.
- Subway:** Go to the information booth at the subway station to ask how much money is needed and add the correct amount to your ticket. Or lookup cost by route on pamphlets and information signs in the station. You may be able to obtain a day pass or will need to add the correct amount based off distance.



Option 2—Photo House Hunt

Photograph different types of housing or places to sleep all over your city or town. Depending on the size of your community, you may encounter anything from a large ranch house to a high-rise apartment.

Step 1—Photograph

Photograph at least 5 of the following types of housing.

- Small House
- Medium House
- Mansion
- Apartment
- Trailer
- High Rise Housing
- Farm house
- Condominium
- Boat or Houseboat
- Homeless or Rescue shelter

Step 2—Create a Slideshow

Put your photos into a slideshow (use PowerPoint or a smartphone) or create a document with pictures and the label of the type of building the picture represents.

Option 3—Interview a Professional

Spend at least 30 minutes interviewing a person who has a job you find interesting (police officer, librarian, firefighter, doctor, teacher, coach, construction worker, etc.). Discover what he or she does to help the community and what the job is like. If possible, visit the person's place of work.

Interview Questions (To help you get started.)

- How long have you lived in this city?
- What does your normal day at work look like?
- How does your job help the community?
- Can I visit your place for work for 10-15 minutes?
- How did you pick your job in the community?

Option 4—Enjoy a Local Festival

Visit your city or town's local website and look for an upcoming community-wide event to attend, such as a farmer's market, art walk, county fair, downtown festival, or a local foods and restaurants festival. Attend with your family!

While you are there observe the following:

- Observe the ages of the people attending.
- Observe the dress of people attending the event.
- Observe people's attitudes toward the event and their city.



Option 5—Create an Advertisement to Attract Tourists

Create a visual ad or video selling the best parts of your town or city.

Commercial or Ad Ideas:

- Create a tourism poster that invites people to your town. Include photographs of local places to visit and famous sights in your city.
- Shoot a video with you presenting and showing different highlights of the city.
- Include facts about the city, pictures or footage of the main attractions, details about the people groups and population, common professions, transportation, and family friendly places to visit.
- Share the city or town motto (or make up your own!)

Video Tips

Use software such as iMovie or Windows Movie Maker to add things like background music, text introductions, and transitions to your video.

Poster Tips

Acquire pamphlets from the local visitors center and use the pictures provided to add to the photo collection included on your poster. Find many of the poster and art supplies needed at your local Dollar Store, or art supply store.

RESEARCH MORE

- *On the Town: A Community Adventure* by Judith Caseley
- *Where Do I Live?* by Neil Chsanow
- *City (Neighborhood Walk)* by Peggy Pancella
- *Communities* by Gail Saunders-Smith PhD
- *Living in Urban Communities* by Kristin Sterling (Also wrote *Living In Rural Communities* and *Living in Suburban Communities*)
- Use an online encyclopedia or atlas to find facts about your city.
- Visit your city's local website.

My child has successfully completed the Project Goals for the topic—My Community.

Adult Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Complete SIX projects to earn your CITIZENSHIP award)