



Essential Question

What do good citizens do?



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Good Citizens

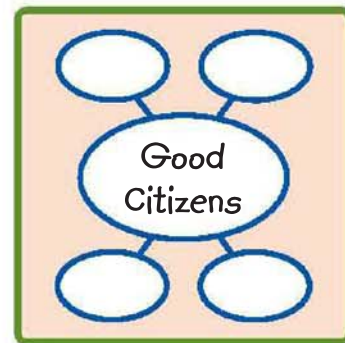
These girls are raising money to buy playground equipment for a park in their neighborhood. They are good citizens. Citizens have rights and responsibilities.

- ▶ A citizen shows responsibility by keeping their neighborhood clean.
- ▶ A citizen has rights, such as the right to go to school.

Talk About It



Talk with a partner about other ways you can be a good citizen. Then write your ideas on the web.



Vocabulary

Use the picture and sentence to learn each word.



champion

Maya won the game and became the new **champion**.

What is a synonym for champion?



determined

The boy **determined** which books to check out at the library.

Who determined what you wore to school today?



issues

The fireman talked about **issues** of fire safety with the children.

What are some issues in your classroom?



promises

Zack and Jon made **promises** to tell the truth and stay friends.

Why should you keep your promises?



responsibility

It is my **responsibility** to clean my room every week.

What is a responsibility you have at home?



rights

Going to school is one of your **rights** as a citizen.

What other rights do you have?



volunteered

I **volunteered** to help plant flowers in the garden.

Tell about a time you volunteered to help someone.



votes

I wonder who got the most **votes** in our class election.

When do people use votes to decide things?

Your Turn



Pick three words. Write three questions for your partner to answer.

Go Digital! Use the online visual glossary

A Difficult Decision



Essential Question

What do good citizens do?

Read about a boy who chooses to be a good citizen.

My best friend Paul and I were excited to go to the park after school. The park had a new fort. The Parks Department let the kids choose what kind of equipment to build, and the fort got the most **votes**. After school, Mom and I met Paul and his dad at the park.

Paul and I raced to the top of the tower. “I win. I’m the **champion**,” I shouted. “Look, Paul! Someone left the newest GameMaster here. It’s mine now!”

Paul raised his eyebrows and looked thoughtful. “Wyatt, you cannot keep that GameMaster,” he said. “You have a **responsibility** to return it. It is your duty!”

I asked, “Haven’t you ever heard the saying, ‘finders keepers, losers weepers’? I have **rights**. I found it, so I am claiming it.”





“You can do whatever you want, Wyatt, but you know it’s wrong to keep it,” Paul said. Then he added, “Whenever there are **issues** like this at school, you’re the one who helps solve the problems. Now you aren’t taking your own advice.”

Then Paul added, “I **volunteered** my thoughts. If you don’t want to take the help I offered, there’s nothing I can do.”

Paul was right. I couldn’t keep the game because it wasn’t mine. The person who lost it would be upset. I cleared my throat and said in my best deep voice, “I’ve **determined** that you’re right!”

“I’m delighted you decided to do the right thing,” said Paul.

We told my mother what happened. She walked around the park with us so we could try to find the owner of the game. Soon we saw a boy and his Mom looking for something. He looked hopeless, and he burst into tears when we asked him if the game was his. “Yes,” he wailed, “I lost my GameMaster a little while ago. I should have been more careful!”

Afterward, Mom and I walked home. I was glad I returned the toy to the boy. So, I made a **promise** to myself to always try to do the right thing. Now that is a vow I can keep!



Make Connections

How are Paul and Wyatt good citizens? **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

What is something you do to be a good citizen? **TEXT TO SELF**