



Second Grade Unit 1: Navigate My Community

Essential Question #4: How can I be a responsible citizen in our community?

Lesson Title: ABCs of Civic Responsibility

SS Standard II, Objective 1 & 3

Implementation Time: Several 15 minute lessons spread throughout the unit

Media Resources Needed: *America: A Patriotic Primer* by Lynn Cheney & Robin Preiss Glasser

Resources Needed: class three- column K-W-L chart on chart paper/white board

Materials Needed:

Writing paper (1 per student)

Cheap small paper plates (13 per student for ABC books)

Yarn (for binding books)

Crayons

Markers

Paints (optional)

Procedure:

Note: This assignment is most effective if taught in small sections. It is best to discuss one or two letters of the alphabet book each day throughout the unit so that you have time to thoroughly discuss and explore the examples.

1. Remind students of previous lessons on good citizenship. In the “Know” section of a class K-W-L chart, list all that students’ know/have learned.
2. Discuss how to recognize and practice responsible citizenship in our community, state, and nation. Ask students what questions they have/what they wonder about in regards to the topic. List ideas that need further discussion/clarification/answers in the “Wonder” section of the K-W-L chart.



3. On a blank piece of writing paper, have students write the letters of the alphabet on the left side of the page. Instruct them to leave one line space between letters.
4. Project and read *America: A Patriotic Primer*, pausing to talk about the various celebrations, historic figures, holidays, symbols, landmarks, documents, etc. Instruct students to select one idea for each letter of the alphabet and write the word(s) on their paper next to the corresponding letter as you are reading.
5. As a class, complete the “Learned” section of the K-W-L chart. What were some of the most important/interesting things learned? Chart.

Assessment:

Have students use cheap paper plates to create their own ABC book of civic responsibility using book/discussion or their own examples. Make sure they include at least one of each of the following: national/state holiday; national/state symbol; national activity; benefit of being a U.S. citizen; historic figure. Bind with yarn.

Extension:

Listen to/sing patriotic songs as students work on their ABC books.

Have students partner with younger students to read/share their books.

As a class, participate in a civic activity: community/school cleanup, recycling, fund raiser, mock election, etc. Process the importance of civic engagement with students, making sure they understand that everyone (regardless of age) can be an active, responsible citizen.