

3rd Grade

Unit 4: Responsibility: My Classroom, Community and Country

Essential Question #2: What are our rights and responsibilities as members of a community?

Lesson Title: Responsible Community Members

SS Standard III, Objective 1

Implementation Time: 60 minutes

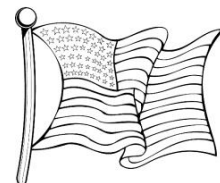
Media Resources Needed: pictures/picture books that illustrate examples of personal and community needs

Resources Needed: List Poem examples (attached)

Materials Needed: 8.5" X 22" strips of white construction/butcher paper (1 per student), rulers, markers, crayons

Procedure:

1. Activate students' background knowledge about the difference between **personal** and **community needs**. Use pictures/picture books to help illustrate examples of people acting on behalf of themselves and on behalf of their communities.
2. Identify why responsibilities, both personal and community, are important for a functioning community.
3. Divide students into groups of three. Assign groups to make three different lists of items, activities, or events that describe what **personal responsibility** is/looks like, **responsible behavior at school**, and **responsible behavior in the community**.
4. Assign each group member to choose one of the group lists and use it to write a list poem (share examples below) that will be published and shared with the other two group members. Allow groups time to share, revise, and edit the three poems and have them write all three of their names down as the authors of each poem. Have each group share their "best effort" with the rest of the class.
5. Using the collage created in the *Patriotic Symbols and Traditions* lesson, have students glue their collage in the center of their construction/butcher paper strip. Fold the remaining edges inward, creating two flaps that cover the collage. If done correctly, students can fold back the two flaps, revealing the collage below. Find the



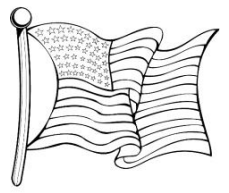
horizontal center of each flap and cut the flap in half, stopping at the outer edges. Four flaps now cover the collage.

6. With the collage covered by the flaps, students should write one of the following phrases, each on a different flap (leaving the flap on the bottom right-hand corner blank): **personal responsibility, responsibility at school, responsibility in the community**. Students should write their first and last name on the flap in the bottom right-hand corner.

7. On the inside of the appropriate flap (the side revealed when you open it and see the collage), have students write their group's list poem. Repeat for all three flaps.

Assessment:

On the inside of the flap in the bottom right-hand corner (with the student's first and last name), assign students to write an original one-sentence statement about **rights** and **responsibilities** that summarizes student understanding. Display collages.



List Poems - EXAMPLES

Responsibility at School...

Students don't push or shout
No one calls me names
We keep our hands and feet to ourselves
Have fun together playing games
Adults are polite, examples of how to behave
We push in our chairs, clean up our messes
Listen respectfully to what one another has to say.

Personal Responsibility...

Tell the truth and be nice
Brush my teeth, wash my hands, and bathe
Listen to instructions, without having to be told twice.
Follow safety rules when I walk and ride my bike
Respect other people's property
Be nice to people, even those I don't like.

Responsibility in the Community...

Obey the law, pay taxes, vote when I'm eighteen
Voice my opinion in a civil, respectful way
Pledge allegiance to the flag and hold my country in high esteem.
Respect private property, don't steal or cheat
Follow traffic rules and laws
Help in my neighborhood and pick up litter I meet.