

Community Unit
Lesson Plan by Megan Gallmeyer
Inspired by Brian F. Geiger, University of Alabama at Birmingham, ProTeacher.com

Lesson: Citizenship (Reading)

Length: 30 minutes

Age/Grade Intended: 3rd Grade

Academic Standard:

- Social Studies 3.2.1 Explain that people are citizens of their community, state, and nation and explain the importance of good citizenship.

Performance Objectives:

- After reading the book, the students will be able to orally explain one way they can be a good citizen with complete participation.
- After the class discussion over citizenship, the students will write three acts they can carry out to be a good citizen with at least two of the three being correct.

Assessment:

- I will first look to see that each student writes three examples of ways to be a good citizen, and then I will make sure that at least two of them are reasonable acts they could carry out.

Advanced Preparation by Teacher:

- Obtain a copy of *The Berenstain Bears Lend a Helping Hand* by Stan and Jan Berenstain.
- Make poster board with a tree trunk on it
- Cut out three green squares for each student
- Markers, crayons, scissors, tape, and glue

Procedure:

Introduction: Who can tell me what it means to be a good citizen? (Bloom, Knowledge)

Explain that everyone is a citizen on their community, state, and nation. Go over some of their responsibilities for each.

Step-by-Step Procedure:

- Read the book, *The Berenstain Bears To the Rescue* by Stan and Jan Berenstain. Were the bear cubs good citizens? How? (Bloom, Knowledge)
- How can we be good citizens? Brainstorm some acts they can do to be good citizens and write them on the board. (Gardner, Interpersonal)
- Have each student write three acts they can do on the green squares. Draw a picture to go with them. (Gardner, Spatial) They should choose one of the three that they can do this semester.
- Have each student come up and talk about their three acts. Put the one they want to do this semester up on the three. Put the others in a zip-lock bag to return to throughout the semester.
- After everyone is done, ask the students to explain how these acts help our community? (Bloom, Comprehension)

Closing: Great job class! I can tell we are already on our way to being great citizens. A couple of times this semester I will have everyone give us an update on how they are doing on their citizenship act, so let's start right away at helping our community become a better place.

Adaptation: For the student who has trouble writing, allow them to write one word to go along with their picture.

Enrichment: For the student who is advanced, have them explain why their act is a good form of citizenship.

Reflection: What went well? What could have been better? What would I change for next time?