

Unit 01: Citizenship

Content Area: **Template**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Full Year**
Length: **FY**
Status: **Published**

Standards Alignment

New Jersey Student Learning Standards

AAAA.K-12.1	Inquire, think critically, and gain knowledge.
AAAA.K-12.1.1	Skills
AAAA.K-12.1.1.1	Follow an inquiry-based process in seeking knowledge in curricular subjects, and make the real-world connection for using this process in own life.
AAAA.K-12.1.1.2	Use prior and background knowledge as context for new learning.
AAAA.K-12.1.2	Dispositions in Action
AAAA.K-12.1.2.3	Demonstrate creativity by using multiple resources and formats.
AAAA.K-12.1.4	Self-Assessment Strategies
AAAA.K-12.1.4.4	Seek appropriate help when it is needed.

Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills

CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP3	Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP10	Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

Technology / Integration of Computer Science and Design Thinking

Interdisciplinary Connections: NJSL for ELA, Social Studies, Science and/or Math Section

LA.RL.6	Reading Literature Text Key Ideas and Details
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R1	Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
LA.RL.6.1	Cite textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
LA.RL.6.2	Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R2	Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W	Writing Text Types and Purposes
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W7	Research to Build and Present Knowledge Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects, utilizing an inquiry-based research process, based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. Range of Writing
LA.W.7.1	Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.
LA.W.7.1.B	Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
LA.W.7.1.C	Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), reasons, and evidence.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.SL	Speaking and Listening Comprehension and Collaboration
LA.W.7.1.D	Establish and maintain a formal style/academic style, approach, and form.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.SL1	Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
LA.W.7.2.A	Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information, using text structures (e.g., definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g., headings, graphics, and multimedia).

LA.W.7.2.B	Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
LA.W.7.2.C	Use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
LA.W.7.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
LA.W.7.3.E	Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.
LA.W.7.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.
LA.W.7.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
LA.SL.7.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
LA.SL.7.1.D	Acknowledge new information expressed by others and, when warranted, modify their own views.
SOC.6.1.8.3	Revolution and the New Nation (1754-1820s)
SOC.6.1.8.A	Civics, Government, and Human Rights
SOC.6.1.8.A.3.b	Evaluate the effectiveness of the fundamental principles of the Constitution (i.e., consent of the governed, rule of law, federalism, limited government, separation of powers, checks and balances, and individual rights) in establishing a federal government that allows for growth and change over time.
SOC.6.1.8.A.3.g	Evaluate the impact of the Constitution and Bill of Rights on current day issues.
SOC.6.3.8	Active Citizenship in the 21st Century: All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.
SOC.6.3.8.A.1	Deliberate on a public issue affecting an upcoming election, consider opposing arguments, and develop a reasoned conclusion.
SOC.6.3.8.CS.A	Civics, Government, and Human Rights

Integration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Climate Change; Informational and Media Literacy

see Crosswalks

21st Century Life and Careers

Stage I: Desired Results

Transfer/Overview/Rationale

Transfer / Overview / Rationale

Unit Rationale

The purpose of this unit...

Meaning

Essential Questions

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- How can we solve problems without letting our emotions interfere?
- How is being a member of a community beneficial? How can I be an active participant in my community?

Enduring Understanding/Indicators of Understanding

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- The scientific method can be employed to solve problems and resolve conflicts objectively.
- An understanding of citizenship is key to gaining a sense of community and responsibility.
- Being a member of a community means respecting and caring for it (active citizenship).

Acquisition (Student Learning Objectives)

Knowledge

Knowledge

Students will know...

- The students will be able to identify the characteristics of citizenship.
- The students will be able to identify areas of the school that need improvement.
- The students will be able to define “Constitution,” and how it affects them as citizens.
- The students will be able to apply the scientific method as an approach to everyday problem solving.
- The students will be able to compose a school improvement letter.
- The students will be able answer comprehension questions based on Aesop’s Fable, “The Lion and the Shepherd.”
- The students will be able to identify the pros and cons of living in a community.
- The students will be able to design their own flag and identify the symbolism within their design.

Skills

Skills

Student will be skilled at ...

- Gathering information from various kinds of text
- Reading and analyzing various fables
- Creating and implementing a service project
- Implementing the scientific method
- Formal letter writing
- Literary analysis

Stage 3: Learning Plan

Resource and Mentor Texts

Resources and Mentor Texts

Aesop’s Fables by Aesop

Assorted Readings and Comprehension questions

<http://pbskids.org/democracy/my-government/>

[CITIZENSHIP Revised.doc](#)

Formative Assessment Strategies

Formative Assessment Strategies

- Evaluation of completed ideal school proposal
- Evaluation of completed journal prompts
- Give Mr. Lincoln a Drink Lab
- Evaluation of Citizenship Role Play exercise
- Evaluation of completed citizenship acrostic
- Evaluation of completed service project graphic organizer
- Evaluation of comprehension questions

Learning Activities/Unit of Study

Learning Activities/Unit of Study

- Introduce the Scientific Method as a means of problem solving in everyday life
- Provide examples
- Give Mr. Lincoln a Drink Lab
- Define the term “citizen” as a class
- Read introductory section from Citizenship text and discuss
- Discuss Constitution, Bill of Rights and their importance
- Students create their own “Bill of Rights”
- Citizenship and Caring for the Community
- Teacher walks around the school with students and students must record areas that need improvement
- Students design an improvement plan as a “concerned citizen”
- Students draft their own model to represent the “ideal school”
- Models must be accompanied with a written description
- Answer discussion questions
- Journal Prompt What are some ways you can be a good citizen in your community?
- As a class, visit PBS interactive site, Government and Me
- Students describe the purpose of government in their own words along with what services it provides
- Brainstorm examples of “bad” citizenship (i.e. littering)

- In pairs students design a scenario to role play wherein they correct poor citizenship
- Share examples of themed acrostics and teacher example of citizenship
- Students design their own acrostic with citizenship as the theme
- Read “The American Flag”
- Students draw their own flag, identifying the importance of the symbols they’ve included
- Students write their own anthem to accompany their flag
- Read “What a Community Gives”
- Students identify potential pros and cons of a community
- Class discussion related to importance of community
- Final editing session of School Improvement Letter
- Delivery of letter to principal
- Students draw their own flag, identifying the importance of the symbols they’ve included (carried over from previous week)
- Read Scholastic News piece “Privacy and Your Rights” and discuss with regard to previous topic of Bill of Rights
- Answer response questions based on the article (Should people give up their rights for security?)
- Complete “Know Your State” activity on page 14 of modified boy scouts text
- Read “Know your Nation” and discuss importance of state/national awareness
- Take sample citizenship test
- Service and Citizenship: students design their own service project for giving back to the community
- Read “Community Government” and students identify who they’d like to meet within their community government and why
- Culminating Discussion about Citizenship
- Completion of the “L” section of KWL chart about Citizenship
- Complete “Citizen of the Month” nomination from previous week

[PBS Government and You.docx](#)

[Good Citizen Research.docx](#)

[Detecting Danger Privacy and Your Rights Questions.docx](#)

[Detecting Danger Privacy and Your Rights.docx](#)

Modifications and/or Accommodations

Suggested Modifications (ELL, Sp. Ed, Gifted, At-risk of Failure)

English Language Learners

Native language support: The teacher provides auditory or written content to students in their native language.

Adjusted Speech: The teacher changes speech patterns to increase student comprehension. This could include facing the students, paraphrasing, clearly indicating the most important ideas, and speaking more slowly.

Visuals: The teacher uses graphics, pictures, visuals, and manipulatives. This helps ELL students better understand and comprehend the subjects at hand.

Front-Loading Vocabulary: The teacher front loads vocabulary. This means providing students with a list of important vocabulary words they will need to know for a book, lesson, etc. prior to the lesson

being taught. Including pictures to go with the vocabulary words is also very beneficial for the students.

Special Education Students

Chunking: The teacher presents information in a way that makes it easy for students to understand and remember. Chunking is based on the presumption that our working memory is easily overloaded by excessive detail. The best way to deliver information is to organize it into meaningful units. Because students with special needs get overloaded easily, chunking is an effective strategy to use with them.

Checking for Understanding: It is important to constantly check for understanding, especially for students who have accommodations. Teachers want to make sure students understand the concepts being covered in a way that makes sense to them.

Extra time: The teacher provides students with special needs extra time to complete work or answer questions. It is important to give students enough time to process their thoughts.

Oral Reading: The teacher will read work orally to students. Class work such as tests and literature circles may need to be read aloud to the student.

Timers: The teacher will use timers as an instructional tool. The use of timers is beneficial for students who have trouble completing tasks. Timers can be helpful so the student is aware of how much time they have to complete an assignment.

Students with 504 Plans

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Gifted & Talented Strategies

Extensions/Enrichments: Teachers will provide gifted and talented students with extension/enrichment projects. Students will be challenged to further their understanding, to apply acquired knowledge, and/or to produce something in reference to acquired knowledge.

Modify/Change Activities: Teachers will monitor and modify activities to accommodate those students who need to be challenged further. Additional reading, problem-solving, writing, or project work is necessary for those students who are ready to move on at a rate more accelerated than their peers. In this way, G & T students are provided the same opportunity for support as special needs students.

Students at Risk of School Failure

Directions or Instructions: Make sure directions and/or instructions are given in limited numbers. Give directions/instructions verbally and in simple written format. Ask students to repeat the instructions or directions to ensure understanding occurs. Check back with the student to ensure he/she hasn't forgotten.

Peer Support: Peers can help build confidence in other students by assisting in peer learning. Many teachers use the 'ask 3 before me' approach. This is fine, however, a student at risk may have to have a specific student or two to ask. Set this up for the student so he/she knows who to ask for clarification before going to you.

Alternate or Modified Assignments: Always ask yourself, "How can I modify this assignment to ensure the students at risk are able to complete it?" Sometimes you'll simplify the task, reduce the length of the assignment or allow for a different mode of delivery. For instance, many students may hand something in, the at-risk student may jot notes and give you the information verbally. Or, it just may be that you will need to assign an alternate assignment.

Increase One to One Time: When other students are working, always touch base with your students at risk and find out if they're on track or needing some additional support. A few minutes here and there will go a long way to intervene as the need presents itself.

Contracts: It helps to have a working contract between you and your students at risk. This helps prioritize the tasks that need to be done and ensure completion happens. Each day write down what needs to be completed, as the tasks are done, provide a checkmark or happy face. The goal of using contracts is to eventually have the student come to you for completion sign-offs.

Hands On: As much as possible, think in concrete terms and provide hands-on tasks. This means a child doing math may require a calculator or counters. The child may need to tape record comprehension activities instead of writing them. A child may have to listen to a story being read instead of reading it him/herself.

Tests/Assessments: Tests can be done orally if need be. Break tests down in smaller increments by having a portion of the test in the morning, another portion after lunch and the final part the next day.

Seating: Seat students near a helping peer or with quick access to the teacher. Those with hearing or sight issues need to be close to the instruction which often means near the front.

