

WHAT DOES CITIZENSHIP MEAN?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Citizenship is membership of a political community, with rights and responsibilities. Australian citizenship includes civic responsibilities and opportunities for participation.



RIGHTS AND CIVIC FREEDOMS

Express views within the law; receive legal protection; participate under applicable rules.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Obey laws; respect others' rights; vote and serve on a jury when required and eligible.

Connect the ideas

Draw a line from “respect others’ rights” to a civic freedom it helps protect. Explain your connection.

Citizens and non-citizens can contribute positively to community life. Many rights apply to everyone. Voting and candidate eligibility have specific legal requirements.

CITIZENSHIP — COMMUNITY THINKING

Name: _____ Date: _____

In fictional Rivergum, residents with different backgrounds help in a community garden. Some are citizens and some are not.



Can all of them contribute? Why?

Name one responsibility and one participation method

Must a child be an eligible voter to volunteer?

This is a civic concepts activity, not citizenship or immigration eligibility advice.

RIGHTS OR RESPONSIBILITIES?

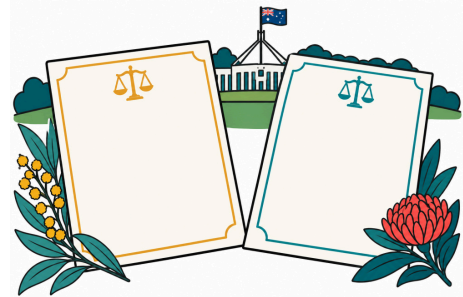
Name: _____ Date: _____

Sort the twelve cards from page 2. Record numbers rather than cutting if you prefer.

RIGHTS / CIVIC FREEDOMS



RESPONSIBILITIES



These are broad civic concepts. Rights have legal limits and arise from different laws. Voting and jury duties apply only when required and eligible; not every resident has identical electoral rights.

Why do the words “when required and eligible” matter?

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES — CARDS

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Obey Australian laws.

2. Express views within the law.

3. Vote when required and eligible.

4. Receive protection of Australian law.

5. Serve on a jury when required and eligible.

6. Participate in democratic processes within applicable rules.

7. Respect the rights of other people.

8. Seek legal protection through the legal system.

9. Follow lawful civic obligations that apply to you.

10. Join lawful community discussion.

11. Respect lawful rules for peaceful meetings.

12. Hold and discuss views within the law.

Choose a freedom and explain a responsibility that supports it.

DEMOCRACY IS MORE THAN VOTING

Name: _____ Date: _____

Discuss each method. Write an example of how it could help a fictional community.

Write to a representative



Attend a community meeting



Volunteer



Join a community organisation



Choose a method

What could a child do? What might need adult help or legal eligibility?

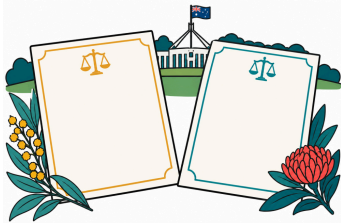
These pages teach participation methods, not support for a cause. Voting and standing as a candidate require legal eligibility. Everyone can contribute to community life in suitable ways.

DEMOCRACY IS MORE THAN VOTING

Name: _____ Date: _____

Discuss each method. Write an example of how it could help a fictional community.

Learn about an issue



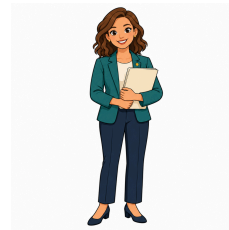
Sign a petition



Vote when eligible



Stand as a candidate when legally eligible



Choose a method

What could a child do? What might need adult help or legal eligibility?

These pages teach participation methods, not support for a cause. Voting and standing as a candidate require legal eligibility. Everyone can contribute to community life in suitable ways.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION MATCH

Name: _____ Date: _____

Match each fictional situation to the best method listed. Write A–E. Each page has its own definitions.



1. Mia wants council to consider more shade in a playground.

☐

A. Attend a community meeting.

2. Ethan has views on a federal issue for his MP.

☐

B. Volunteer in a community project.

3. Ari wants to understand an issue before deciding.

☐

C. Contact the local council.

4. Noor wants to hear residents' views at a public forum.

☐

D. Read reliable information and compare evidence.

5. Leah wants to help plant seedlings with a group.

☐

E. Write to the relevant federal representative.

Could another lawful method also help? Explain one.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION MATCH

Name: _____ Date: _____

Match each fictional situation to the best method listed. Write A–E. Each page has its own definitions.



1. Sam wants to organise regularly with others on a shared interest.

☐

A. Stand as a candidate under the relevant rules.

2. Taylor wants to support a written request to council.

☐

B. Prepare a clear information summary.

3. An eligible enrolled adult wants to choose representatives.

☐

C. Join a community organisation.

4. A legally eligible adult wants to seek election to a council seat.

☐

D. Vote in the election.

5. River wants to share carefully checked information with neighbours.

☐

E. Sign an appropriate petition.

Could another lawful method also help? Explain one.

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?

Name: _____ Date: _____



LOCAL COUNCIL



STATE/TERRITORY



FEDERAL

Write L, S/T or F for the most appropriate starting point.

1. Council playground equipment needs repair.

2. A question about a state public school service.

3. An immigration application question.

4. Opening hours of a council library.

5. A question about federal legislation.

6. A service question for a state-run public hospital.

These examples show usual starting points. Funding and responsibilities can overlap. In the ACT, the territory government also handles local services.

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?

Name: _____ Date: _____



LOCAL COUNCIL



STATE/TERRITORY



FEDERAL

Write L, S/T or F for the most appropriate starting point.

7. Council rubbish collection has been missed.

8. A question about a state transport service.

9. A question about an Australian passport.

10. Maintenance of a council-owned swimming pool.

11. A question about a state police service.

12. A question about a federal social security program.

These examples show usual starting points. Funding and responsibilities can overlap. In the ACT, the territory government also handles local services.

WRITE TO A FICTIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Name: _____ Date: _____

CLASSROOM LETTER — FICTIONAL ISSUE

Rivergum Park needs more drinking fountains. Write a respectful letter to a fictional councillor. Give reasons and a practical suggestion.



Dear Councillor _____,

I am writing about...

I think...

My reasons are...

A possible solution is...

Thank you for considering...

From _____

Check: ☐ clear request ☐ reasons ☐ respectful language

SHOULD RIVERGUM PARK GET A NEW PLAYGROUND?

Name: _____ Date: _____

FICTIONAL COMMUNITY MEETING



Use the seven role cards on pages 2–3. Each person has practical concerns. No role has a pre-set correct position.

Discuss three options

- A. Build a new playground now.
- B. Improve the existing play area.
- C. Gather more information before deciding.

Our recommendation

Reasons and trade-offs

Whose needs did we consider?

COMMUNITY MEETING — ROLE CARDS

Name: _____ Date: _____

Listen to each person. Ask a question before recommending an option.

Local councillor

Consider community needs, available funds and the reasons for a recommendation.

A question I could ask:

Parent

Consider supervision, shade, seating and the needs of different children.

A question I could ask:

Nearby resident

Consider noise, parking, access and how the park is used.

A question I could ask:

Child

Consider enjoyable play, safety and space for different ages.

A question I could ask:

Remember: compare options using evidence, costs, access and community needs.

COMMUNITY MEETING — ROLE CARDS

Name: _____ Date: _____

Listen to each person. Ask a question before recommending an option.

Sporting club member

Consider room for sport, shared paths and scheduling.

A question I could ask:

Accessibility advocate

Consider step-free access, inclusive play and usable seating.

A question I could ask:

Council staff member

Consider maintenance, inspections, costs and practical design.

A question I could ask:

Remember: compare options using evidence, costs, access and community needs.

CREATE A COMMUNITY PETITION

Name: _____ Date: _____

CLASSROOM PRACTICE PETITION — NOT A REAL PETITION

Fictional request: an additional pedestrian crossing near Rivergum Park. In the story, council manages the road. Actual road responsibility can vary.



What are we asking for?

Why?

Who is responsible?

Who would be affected?

Practice signatures

Use invented names or initials.

A petition is a written request supported by signatories. Real councils and parliaments have their own petition rules. This classroom sheet is not submitted anywhere.