

Take
the...

GOOD CITIZEN CHALLENGE

On these pages you'll find a list of questions and activities related to the rights and duties of U.S. citizenship. Answer the questions and complete the activities to earn points and win prizes. Designed for youth ages 9 to 14, the Challenge is open to all Vermont K-12 students under 18.



Keep track of the activities you complete by checking the box next to the activity. Some of these tasks you can record directly on your scorecard. For the ones that you can't, we ask that you show your work by taking

a photo, recording audio or video, or attaching additional sheets of paper clearly labeled with the activity number.

When you earn 251 points — the number of towns in Vermont — send us your scorecard and proof of completion to receive a Good Citizen medal. You will also be invited to a reception at the Vermont Statehouse where you will meet state officials. The first 100 participants to complete the Challenge will also receive a Good Citizen T-shirt. If you attempt but do not complete the Challenge, send us your scorecard anyway! We will send you a Good Citizen sticker and a participation prize.

We've divided the activities into 7 categories.

To complete the challenge, you need to complete a minimum number of activities in each category, specified at the top of each section. To assist you in your quest, we've listed some resources that will help you find the answers you seek.

When your challenge is complete...

Mail your scorecard

with photos, copies of recordings and other supporting materials to:

Good Citizen Challenge,
Kids VT, 255 S. Champlain St.
Suite 5, Burlington, VT 05401

OR

Upload a scan of your

scorecard with photos, recordings and other supporting materials to Dropbox, Google Drive or another cloud-based album and send the link to goodcitizen@kidsvt.com.

All activities must be completed between April 15 and

October 9, 2018. A parent, guardian or teacher must sign off on your work at the end of the scorecard.

If you're having a problem uploading your photos online, contact us and we can help! Call 802-864-5684, or email goodcitizen@kidsvt.com.

with support from:



powered by:



2018 GOOD CITIZEN SCORECARD

History

Suggested resources: ourdocuments.gov, vermont.gov, your local library, your local historical society

Please complete at least 3 of these activities:

1. What is Vermont's state motto?
5 PTS

- BONUS:** What does it mean to you? 5 PTS

2. Read a chapter book about U.S. history recommended by your local librarian. 20 PTS

BOOK _____

3. Memorize the preamble to the U.S. Constitution and record video of yourself delivering it. Find it at ourdocuments.gov. 15 PTS

4. Memorize the Gettysburg Address and record a video of yourself delivering it. Find it at ourdocuments.gov. 40 PTS

5. Listen to or read Frederick Douglass' 1852 speech "The Meaning of July Fourth for the Negro." Find it at vermonthumanities.org/douglass. 10 PTS

- BONUS:** Every year, the Vermont Humanities Council organizes events at which this speech is read. Attend one of these events. 20 PTS

- BONUS:** Organize your own event where the speech is read. 40 PTS

6. Visit the Vermont History Museum. 10 PTS

7. Visit Fort Ticonderoga in New York. 10 PTS

+5

Add 5 bonus points for each activity you or a parent post on social media using the hashtag #GoodCitizenVT.

KEY

- PHOTO
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- CREATE

HISTORY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

HISTORY CONTINUED

8. Visit a stop on the Vermont Civil War Heritage Trail. Find it at vtcivilwarheritage.net. **10 PTS PER STOP**

9. Visit a stop on the African American Heritage Trail. Find it at vermontvacation.com/africanamericanheritagetrail. **10 PTS PER STOP**

10. Visit any of the Vermont Historic Sites including the Calvin Coolidge Homestead, the Bennington Battle Monument and the Old Constitution House. Find a list of historic sites at sites.vermont.gov. **10 PTS PER STOP**

BONUS: Go to the Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site during the reenactment encampment on July 7 and 8. **20 PTS**

BONUS: Participate as a reenactor. **20 PTS**

11. Find a monument or memorial in your town. Whom does it honor? **10 PTS**

HONOREE(S) _____

12. Pick a street or park in your town and learn about its name. When was it named, and why does it have the name it does? **10 PTS**

13. Match the wars below with their dates. **5 PTS**

___ U.S.-Afghanistan War	A. 1775-1783
___ Civil War	B. 1861-1865
___ Revolutionary War/War for Independence	C. 1 914-1918
___ World War II	D. 1939-1945
___ Vietnam War	E. 1950-1953
___ Korean War	F. 1955-1975
___ World War I	G. 1990-1991
___ Gulf War	H. 2001-present

Reflection

Please answer this question in a medium of your choice — write a paragraph or a poem, draw a cartoon or picture, or record a song:

14. What does being a good citizen mean to you? **10 PTS**

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Government

Suggested resources: vermont.gov, sec.state.vt.us/kids, your local library

Please complete at least 10 of these tasks:

15. Name the three branches of government. **5 PTS**

16. Name the governor of Vermont. **1 PT**

17. Name the lieutenant governor of Vermont. **1 PT**

18. Name the state treasurer. **1 PT**

19. Name your state senators and representatives. **5 PTS**

20. Name Vermont's lone member of the national House of Representatives. **1 PT**

21. Name Vermont's two senators who serve in the U.S. Senate. **2 PTS**

22. Name the five members of the Vermont Supreme Court. **5 PTS**

23. Name the five freedoms protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution. **5 PTS**

24. Saying "I take the fifth" or "I plead the fifth" is a reference to the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, which states that the government cannot make you testify or give evidence against whom? **1 PT**

25. Every four years, voters around the country cast their votes for president on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in which month? **1 PT**

26. Vermont voters elect city or town officers, and approve city and school budgets, on the first Tuesday in March. What is this day called? **1 PT**

27. Pass the citizenship tests put together by the Joe Foss Institute: joefossinstitute.org/civics-curriculum/us-citizenship-test. **10 PTS FOR THE 10-QUESTION TEST 25 PTS FOR THE 25-QUESTION TEST 40 PTS FOR THE 100-QUESTION TEST** of completion certificate.

28. Gerrymandering is the practice of drawing congressional districts in a way that favors one political party over another. Learn how this practice affects elections by playing Gerry Mander: A Voting District Puzzle Game by Vermont-based GameTheory. Find it at playgerrymander.com. **10 PTS**

GOVERNMENT CONTINUED

29. Visit the Vermont Statehouse. **10 PTS** 
30. Go to a city council or selectboard meeting. What were the main items under discussion? **10 PTS** 
- _____
- _____

 **BONUS:** Introduce yourself during the public comment period and explain why you're there. **10 PTS** 

31. Go to a school board meeting. What were the main items under discussion? **10 PTS** 
- _____
- _____

 **BONUS:** Introduce yourself during the public comment period and explain why you're there. **10 PTS** 

32. Apply for the legislative page program (open only to eighth graders; deadline September 30, 2018). Find the application at: legislature.vermont.gov/the-state-house/civic-education/become-a-legislative-page. **20 PTS** 

*Also part of the Vermont State Parks' Venture Vermont Outdoor Challenge. Find more info and download a scorecard at vtstateparks.com/venture-vermont.html.

+5

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Media

Suggested resources: your local library, iTunes

Please complete at least 3 of these activities:

33. Find a copy of your school newspaper or school district newsletter and read it all. **5 PTS** 
34. Find a copy of a local newspaper (such as the *Colchester Sun*, *Stowe Reporter*, *Barton Chronicle* or *Seven Days*) and read three stories. **10 PTS** 
35. Find a copy of a national newspaper (such as the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post* or *USA Today*) and read three stories. **10 PTS** 
36. Find the masthead of each newspaper, the page that tells you who owns the newspaper. Find out who works for the newspaper, and where it is printed and circulated. **5 PTS FOR EACH** 
37. Find a copy of a national news magazine (such as *TIME*, *Newsweek*, *Economist*, *New Republic* or the *Atlantic*) and read three stories. **10 PTS** 
38. Watch a broadcast of the local TV news. **10 PTS** 
39. Watch part of a local meeting on your public access cable channel. **10 PTS** 

NEWSPAPER _____

NEWSPAPER _____

NEWSPAPER _____

NEWSPAPER _____

MAGAZINE _____

MAGAZINE _____

MEETING _____

PROGRAM _____

PROGRAM _____

 **BONUS:** Hear the station identify its frequency and location. **5 PTS** 

40. Listen to a newscast or news program on WDEV or Vermont Public Radio. **5 PTS** 

41. Listen to a news podcast (such as the *Deeper Dig* from *VTDigger.org*, *Brave Little State* from *VPR* or the *Daily* from the *New York Times*). **10 PTS** 

PODCAST _____

42. Read three stories on a local news website. **10 PTS** 

WEBSITE _____

 **BONUS:** Find out where the website is based, who owns it and how often it is updated. **5 PTS** 

Creativity

Suggested resources: Young Writers Project — a free, online platform where Vermont's young writers can share writing, photos and art at youngwritersproject.org

Please complete at least 2 of these activities and submit your work — or a scan or photocopy — with your scorecard:

43. Create a free account on the Young Writers Project website. **5 PTS** 
44. Write a poem about America. **30 PTS** 

 **BONUS:** Submit it to the Young Writers Project. **5 PTS**

45. Write a song about the First Amendment naming the five freedoms it protects. **30 PTS** 

 **BONUS:** Submit it to the Young Writers Project. **5 PTS**

 **BONUS:** Record yourself singing it. **15 PTS** 

46. Draw a picture of a current or past American patriot. Explain who it is and why you chose this figure. **20 PTS** 

 **BONUS:** Submit it to the Young Writers Project. **5 PTS**

← CREATIVITY CONTINUED

47. Draw a comic strip that explains how the three branches of government work. **30 PTS** 📷

BONUS: Submit it to the Young Writers Project. **5 PTS**

48. Learn to sing the “Star-Spangled Banner,” “America the Beautiful,” or “This Land is Your Land” by heart or learn to play one of the songs on your instrument. **20 PTS FOR EACH** 🎵

+5

Add 5 bonus points for each activity you or a parent post on social media using the hashtag #GoodCitizenVT.

49. Make a poster or a video encouraging adults to vote. **20 PTS** 📷

50. Visit the Democracy sculpture on Main Street in Burlington. **10 PTS** 🗺️

BONUS: Why aren't the puzzle pieces connected? Explain. **5 PTS** 🗺️

51. The U.S. Constitution was signed by the delegates to the constitutional convention on September 17, 1787. Celebrate Constitution Day, September 17, by making a birthday card for the Constitution or recording a birthday greeting for it. Learn more at constitutionday.com. **20 PTS** 📷

52. Draw a detailed map of your city or town and include your favorite landmarks. **20 PTS*** 🗺️

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Community

Suggested resources: Your city or town website; Front Porch Forum — a free, locally owned community-building service that connects neighbors at frontporchforum.com

Please complete at least 2 of these activities:

53. Get a library card if you don't have one already. **5 PTS** 📷

54. Sign up to receive your local Front Porch Forum. (Kids can sign up to receive Front Porch Forum emails, but only adults may post to the service). **5 PTS** 📷

BONUS: Get help from an adult to organize a neighborhood event using Front Porch Forum. Print or send the issue in which your message appeared. **20 PTS**

55. Plant a native tree or plant in your yard. **10 PTS** 📷*

56. Plant flowers in your yard where anyone passing by can see them. **10 PTS** 📷

57. Help a neighbor or senior citizen with gardening, planting, yard work or other chores. **10 PTS** 📷*

58. Talk with a senior citizen about their childhood hometown. How were things different then? **20 PTS** 🗣️ 📷

59. Talk with a veteran about military service. Why did he or she serve? **20 PTS** 🗣️ 📷

60. Donate food to your local food bank. **10 PTS** 📷*

61. Pick up litter by a road in your town. **10 PTS** 📷*

62. Talk with someone who serves on a board or commission in your town or volunteers with the local rescue squad. Ask why they volunteer and what they get out of serving, and report on their answers. **20 PTS FOR EACH CONVERSATION** 🗣️ 📷

BONUS: Do any of these entities accept student volunteers? Find out. **5 PTS**

BONUS: Are you qualified to serve? If so, volunteer your time. **30 PTS**

BONUS: Brainstorm some ways your city or town could increase the number of volunteers and write a letter suggesting them to the mayor, city council or selectboard. **20 PTS** 📷

Advocacy

Suggested resources: Front Porch Forum — a free, locally owned community-building service that connects neighbors at frontporchforum.com

Please complete at least 1 of these activities and share your notes:

63. With your parents' or guardians' permission, interview one of the elected officials who represents you. Ask them about the most difficult vote they ever had to cast and why they voted the way they did. Report what you learned. **20 PTS** 🗣️

64. Find someone who disagrees with you about an important political issue and ask them why they hold their belief. What did they tell you? Did it change your view of the issue? How? Explain. **20 PTS** 🗣️

65. Find someone in your family or community who has attended a political protest or rally. Ask them what they were protesting and why. Report what you learned. **20 PTS** 🗣️

66. Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper about an issue that's important to you. How is writing a letter to the editor of a newspaper different from leaving a comment on Facebook? **20 PTS** 🗣️

67. Write to one of your elected officials about an issue that's important to you. **20 PTS** 🗣️

68. Have you been to a protest or rally? Tell us what it was about, why you went and what you remember most about the experience. **20 PTS** 🗣️

GOOD CITIZEN CHALLENGE

GOAL: 257

TOTAL POINTS:

I affirm that _____ has completed these activities.
STUDENT NAME

Signed _____ Printed _____
PARENT, GUARDIAN OR TEACHER PARENT, GUARDIAN OR TEACHER

Email _____ Phone _____

For more info, visit goodcitizenvt.com

Can We Use Your Photos and Audio/Video Recordings?

Thanks for participating in the Good Citizen Challenge! We would like to share your experience to spread the word about the Challenge and inspire others. Please have a parent or guardian fill out and sign this release form. Parents: If you do not wish to share photos and audios of you, your family members and children with others, you do not have to complete this form.

In consideration of my child's or children's participation in the Good Citizen Challenge, I give permission to Da Capo Publishing, Inc. (d/b/a *Seven Days, Kids VT*) and its affiliates:

(a) To use, reuse, publish and republish photographic and digital images and audio recordings of myself, my family and my children (individually and collectively, "participants"), in whole or part, individually or in conjunction with other photographs, artwork and poetry, or any medium and for any purpose whatsoever, including (but not by way of limitation) illustration, promotion, and advertising and trade; and

(b) To use the participant's name in conjunction therewith if Da Capo Publishing so chooses. I hereby release and discharge Da Capo Publishing from any and all claims and demands arising out of or in connection with the use of the photographic and digital images and audio recordings of participants, artwork, poetry and any other submission, including any and all claims for libel.

I am over the age of 21. I have read the foregoing and fully understand the contents thereof.

Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____

Name of Child _____

Address _____

Witness Name _____

Witness Signature _____