



Public Adventures



Adventure Kit





Public Adventures

An active citizenship curriculum for youth

Through Public Adventures youth will contribute to the public good and develop a life-long commitment to active citizenship.

Acknowledgments

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- Active Citizenship Today Field Guide. Charles Degelman and Bill Hayes, Close Up Foundation, Alexandria, VA, and Constitutional Rights Foundation, Los Angeles, CA, 1995.
- Building Citizens. Margo Shea and Kevin Mattson, The Walt Whitman Center, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 1998.
- Building Worlds, Transforming Lives, Making History. Bridget Erlanson and Robert Hildreth, Center for Democracy and Citizenship, Minneapolis, MN, 1997.
- By the People. Melissa Bass, Center for Democracy and Citizenship, Minneapolis, MN, 1995.
- The Center for Democracy and Citizenship. University of Minnesota, 130 Humphrey Center, 301 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55455.
- The Close Up Foundation. 44 Canal Center Plaza, Alexandria, VA 22314.
- The Constitutional Rights Foundation. 601 South Kingsley Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90005.
- Earth Force. 1908 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301.
- Earth Force CAPS, Field Test Edition. Jennifer Clarke, Earth Force, Alexandria, VA, 1997.
- 4-H. *Contact your local county Extension office.*
- Making the Rules. Melissa Bass, Center for Democracy and Citizenship, Minneapolis, MN, 1994.
- The Walt Whitman Center. Rutgers University, 89 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.
- Youth Venture. 1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1920, Arlington, VA 22209.

For information on other organizations involved in citizenship, service and civic education, see the Public Adventures web site.



www.4-h.org/curriculum/citizenship

This web site also includes additional activities, more in-depth "postcard tips" and "how to's," a resource library, a "kids to kids" exchange and an extensive guides' resource and training section.

CITIZENSHIP



Public Adventures

Contents and Assembly Instructions

In your Citizenship Adventure Kit, you will find:

- ▶ 2 Public Adventures cover pages
- ▶ 1 Public Adventures passport
- ▶ 1 set of Public Adventures postcards
- ▶ 8 notebook divider pages

What you or your guide will need to provide:

- ▶ one 3-ring binder
- ▶ 3-hole punched loose-leaf paper
- ▶ recommended—a 3-hole punched zip-lock[®] plastic pencil pouch

Putting your Adventure Kit together:

1. Write your name on the Public Adventures cover sheets.
2. If your 3-ring binder has a plastic cover, slip the non-hole punched cover sheet into that.
3. Put the passport in the pocket of your 3-ring binder.
4. Cut out your postcards. Punch holes using the light green circles as guides.
5. Put the 3-hole punched cover sheet and hole-punched postcards into your 3-ring binder, followed by the notebook divider pages.

Now your kit is ready, and so are you!

Good luck on your adventure!



Explore more at

www.4-hcurriculum.org

National 4-H Curriculum

Adventure Activity:

Discovering Citizenship

There are lots of ways to think about **citizenship**, and they are all important. Take a look at the front of this **Step 1 Divider Page**. On it, we've hidden 17 pictures that have to do with citizenship and **democracy**.

- Can you find and identify all 17 pictures?
- What is important about each picture? What does each have to do with citizenship or democracy?
- These pictures don't cover all of the ways to think about citizenship and democracy. So, what other words come to mind when you think about citizenship and democracy? Why are they important?
- While there are many ways to think about citizenship, Public Adventures focuses on active citizenship. Look up active citizen in your Phrase Book. Do you agree with the definition? Why or why not?

YIELD

While you're here . . . think about how your group is going to work together.

On your adventure, you'll be working with other youth and adults. Together you'll decide what you are going to do and how you are going to do it. By working in a group, you'll be able to benefit from everyone's experiences and ideas. But working in a group can be hard. To make it easier, your group might want to . . .

- Set some ground rules. Ground rules say what members of your group are going to do and how they are going to act so that the group works well together.
- Check out **Postcard #1 & 2** for ideas on how to have a successful meeting.

Use this voting graph to explore different methods of group decision making.

Voting Graph

Voting Method	Did you get what you wanted?	Are you happy with the results of this method?
Majority	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe
Compromise	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe
Consensus	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe

Travel Log

- ✗ Describe what the words "citizenship" and "democracy" mean to you. Draw or write this on a piece of loose-leaf paper and include it in your notebook.
- ✗ Think about working with your group, then answer these questions and put them into your notebook.
 - Give one example of how your group worked together at your meeting.
 - What would have happened if your group hadn't worked together?
 - What's the most important thing to remember when working in a group?



www.4-h.org/curriculum/citizenship

Don't forget to mark your passport!

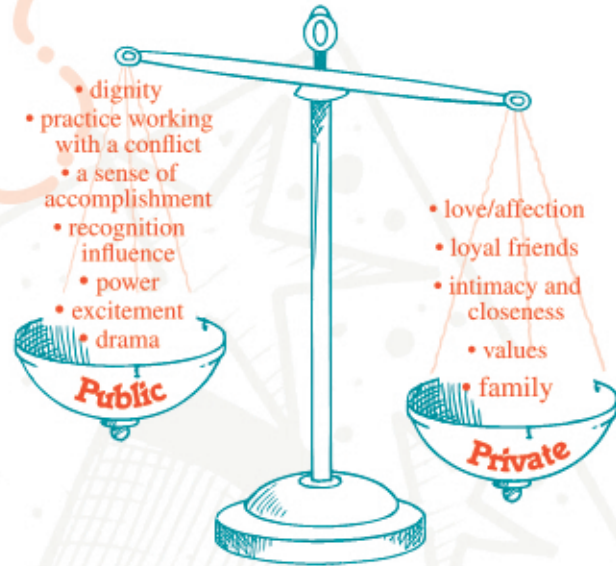
Step

2

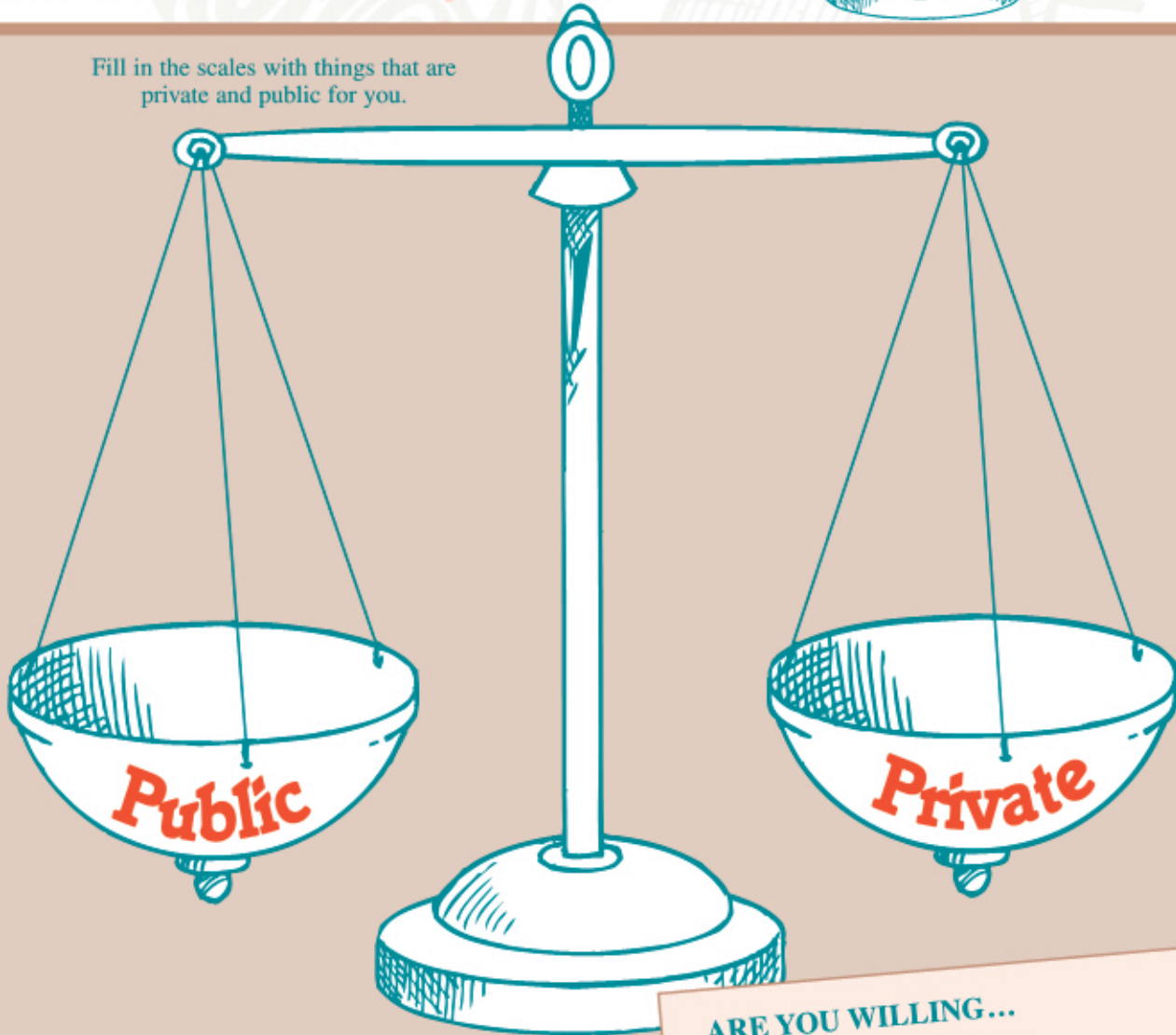
First Steps Out the Door

In Step Two, you will:

- ▶ Define the differences between “public” and “private”.
- ▶ Consider your community issues and choose one.
- ▶ Make a map of your community.



Fill in the scales with things that are private and public for you.



ARE YOU WILLING...

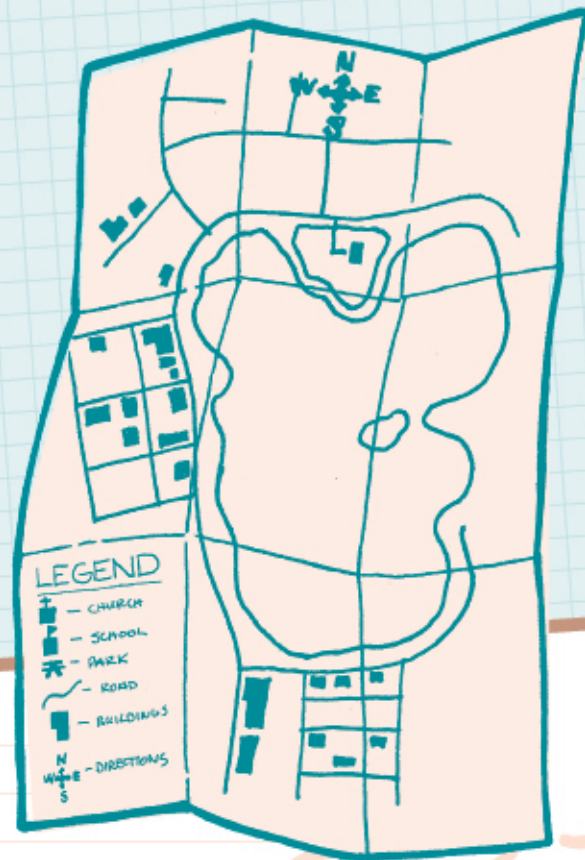
- To respect the different experiences and diversity of the members in your group?
- To work through conflicts respectfully, remembering your common goals?
- To work for the public good?

over →

Adventure Activity: **Map Making**

Your Public Adventure is going to give you the chance to build the kind of **community** and world you want to live in. So, what do you want to see in your community and world?

- Draw a map or picture of your school, neighborhood, town, country, earth, or some other **public** area. Then, add things to make it as you'd like it to be, for yourself and for others. This is your vision. Go ahead and include ideas that are wild as well as realistic!
- What possible **public issues** can you find in your community?



YIELD

While
you're
here ...

Your group needs to decide which public issue you want to work on. Check out **Postcard #2** for tips and strategies for making group decisions.

Travel Log

- ✗ Put your description from the “Map Making” activity into your notebook.
- ✗ Think about your group deciding on its public issue. Answer these questions and put them into your notebook.
 - Do you think it was important that your group got to decide its issue? Why or why not?
 - What would be different for you and your group if someone just told you what issue you were going to work on?
 - Why do you think it is important for people to take part in making decisions that affect them?

*Don't forget to get your
online passport stamped!*



www.4-h.org/curriculum/citizenship

Step

3

Choose Your Destination

In Step Three, you will:

- ▶ explore interests,
- ▶ define your group's goal and decide on a project, and
- ▶ write a mission statement.

Examples of Issues:

- ▶ Harassment in schools
- ▶ Loss of the natural environment
- ▶ Lack of communication between Seniors and Youth

Issues

OUR Issue: _____

Examples of Goals:

- ▶ To reduce the amount of harassment in our school.
- ▶ To improve the natural environment of our city park.
- ▶ To create opportunities for Seniors and Youth to communicate.

Goals

OUR Goal: _____

Projects

Projects: _____

PROJECTS:

Examples of Projects:

- ▶ Create a team of Peer Mediators to serve every recess and lunch hour.
- ▶ To plant and nurture trees in the city park
- ▶ To host a series of forums between Seniors and Youth.



over →



If you are involved with the public, chances are there are other people and groups who are concerned with your issue. To complete the questions in the grid below you may have to go exploring and do some research.

See **Postcard #5** for research tips.

Our Goal:

Our Project:

- Can we accomplish this goal?
- Do we have enough time to accomplish this goal?
- Can we get the resources we need to accomplish this goal?
- Can other people help us? Is this part of a larger public goal? Does our goal affect the public?

	YES	NOT SURE	NO
Will doing this project accomplish our goal?			
Could we successfully complete this project?			
Will the results of this project last after it is done?			
Are there people we can recruit to help us with this project?			
Do we have enough time and resources to do this project?			
Would we have fun doing this project?			



Travel Log

Think about these questions. Jot down your answers and put them in your notebook.

- What was hardest about choosing a goal and a project?
- How did thinking about your interests affect your decisions? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to think about everyone's interests when you are making a decision?

Adventure Activity: Mission Possible!

Another way to think about your adventure is as a mission. You know what you are going to do, and you are going to do it!

Write a mission statement for your group that tells...

- who you are
- what your issue and goal are
- why reaching your goal is important, and
- what project you are going to do to reach your goal.

Our Mission:

When you're done, try one or more of these ideas:

- Create a slogan or jingle. This is a quick, easy to remember phrase or song that sticks in people's heads when they hear it.
- Make copies of your mission statement that you can give to people you talk to about your project. The copy will help people remember you. Add your names and phone numbers so people can get back to you.
- Make a poster with your mission statement and pictures that illustrate your group's purpose and beliefs. Hang the poster up at your meetings to help keep you on track. Bring it with you when you talk to other groups. People will remember the poster and your group!



Check your direction!
See **Postcard #4**