

The Government of New York State: Citizens Rights & Responsibilities

NYS Social Studies Framework
4.4 GOVERNMENT: There are different levels of government within the United States and New York State. The purpose of government is to protect the rights of citizens and to promote the common good. The government of New York State establishes rights, freedoms, and responsibilities for its citizens.

- 4.4d New Yorkers have rights and freedoms that are guaranteed in the United States Constitution, in the New York State Constitution, and by state laws.

oStudents will examine the rights and freedoms guaranteed to citizens.

Note: This lesson is a quick look at rights and responsibilities. It is not an in-depth study of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Materials:
- "The Government of New York State: Citizens Rights & Responsibilities" student text page.
- "The Government of New York State: Citizens Rights & Responsibilities" poster directions page.
- "The Government of New York State: Citizens Rights & Responsibilities" ticket to leave writing.

Lesson:
Anticipatory Set: Talk about rights government. Ask students what the to what is a responsibility – duties example that applies to your class. "right" to walk to recess on their own the right side of the hall.

Body: Read "The Government of N text and discuss. Next, go over the Assign each pair of students a right share them with the class.

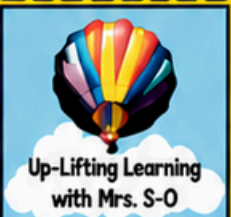
Closure: Ticket to Leave writing.

Name: _____ Date: _____

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Ticket to Leave

Why do you think citizens ha AND responsibilit



NYS SOCIAL STUDIES FRAMEWORK

4.4 GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENS

ELA INTEGRATED

4.4d&e

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FOCUSED

ASSESSMENTS

BUILD THINKING SKILLS

ENGAGING ACTIVITIES

The Government of New York State: Citizens Rights & Responsibilities

The Declaration of Independence

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness

Citizens' Rights

The Declaration of Independence told the world what our new nation thought about our rights as citizens. Read the quote above. The founders believed that we were born with rights that could not be given or taken away by the government. The governments job is to protect our rights.

The U.S. Constitution and the New York State Constitution protect our rights. All citizens have the right to freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the freedom of the press, the right to a fair trial, and the right to a jury.

Citizens' Responsibilities

Citizens' rights come with responsibilities. Some responsibilities are outlined in law. For example, the laws of our nation and state say that citizens must be loyal to the United States, serve on a jury, pay taxes and obey laws.

Other responsibilities are not written in law, but are needed for our government to work. Citizens have the right to vote, and the responsibility to go and vote on Election Day. They have the responsibility to educate themselves about the issues and candidates so

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Directions:

You will take one of the rights or responsibilities listed to the right and create a poster. On your poster you need:

- the right or responsibility text.
- an illustration that explains the right or responsibility – drawn large and with lots of color and detail.

Citizens have ...

- the right to vote
- the responsibility to vote
- the right to fair treatment in court
- the responsibility to serve on a jury
- the right to practice their religion as they wish
- the right gather together in groups
- the right to complain about the government
- the responsibility to pay taxes
- the responsibility to obey laws
- the responsibility to serve as election inspectors
- the right to own weapons
- the right to remain silent when accused of a crime
- the right to not have soldiers living in one's home
- the right not to have one's home searched without a warrant (permission from a judge)

Citizens have the right to vote.

NO PREP • PRINT & GO • ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

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