



SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

## **CITIZENSHIP ALPHABET BOOK**

By Barbara Ashby

### **Activity Description**

The students will create an alphabet book on the theme of citizenship. Each student in the class will randomly select a letter of the alphabet and then find a word that begins with that letter. Each word must relate to citizenship, civics, or government. Students will use a variety of books from the school library that are appropriate for the project. Children are discouraged from using a dictionary since it limits a deeper understanding of the word and its relationship to the theme.

### **Suggested Grade Level**

Grades 4 and 5

### **Estimated Time to Complete**

Three periods of 50 minutes each

### **Objectives**

Students will

- understand the vocabulary associated with citizenship and government;
- use multiple texts to write definitions for words relevant to citizenship and government; and
- participate in creative activities in support of development of a classroom *ABC Book on Citizenship*.

### **Materials Needed**

- Copy paper
- *ABC Book of Citizenship* template
- Pencils
- Crayons, markers, and/or colored pencils
- SVPDP text
- Selected book from the school library with the subject headings of Citizenship and United States/Politics and Government

### **Activity Procedures**

1. Each student in the class will randomly select a letter of the alphabet and then find a word that begins with that letter. Each word must relate to citizenship, civics, or government.

2. Students can begin with materials used in the School Violence Prevention Demonstration Program such as *We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution* and the *Foundations of Democracy* text. Students can consult the index and glossary of these texts and additional materials from the library.
3. Students will look for a definition of the word, create an illustration for the word, and use the word in an appropriate sentence. A template (follows) will be used to complete the assignment.
4. After the assignment is completed, the letter templates will be bound together to form an *ABC Book of Citizenship*. Students can volunteer to design a cover for the book and the class will then vote to select the front and back covers of the book.

*ABC Book of Citizenship*

\_\_\_\_\_

**(Letter)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**(Word)**

**Definition** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**My word illustrated**



**My word in a sentence**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_