

STANDARD 2.11 & 3.11– Good Citizens

ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS

A good citizen has a variety of responsibilities that contribute to society as a whole.

A good citizen understands the need for rules and laws.

Terms to know

- **rules:** Guidelines for how people should act or behave
- **laws:** Important rules written and carried out by government



Laws keep us safe!

The purpose of **rules and laws** is to keep people **safe** and maintain **order**.

Responsibilities of a good citizen

- Respecting and protecting the **rights and property** of others
- Taking part in the **voting process** when making classroom decisions
- Describing actions that can improve the **school and community**
- Demonstrating **self-discipline and self-reliance**
- Practicing **honesty and trustworthiness**

STANDARD 2.12 & 3.12 Communities & Government

People contribute to their communities by practicing the responsibilities of **good citizens**.

participating in school and community activities,

ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS

Governments protect the rights and property of individuals.

Governments exist at the local (community), state (Virginia), and national (United States) levels.

Terms to know

- **Community:** A place where people live, work, and play
- **Laws:** Important rules written and carried out by the government
- **Government:** A group of people who makes laws, carries out laws, and decides laws have been broken



The purposes of **government** are to **make** laws, **carry out** laws, and decide if laws have been **broken**.

Governments are necessary because they develop laws and **protect the rights and property** of individuals.

- **Republican** form of government: A **representative democracy**

Voters in the United States **elect officials to make decisions**

for them in the national government.

Being an American is defined by the shared basic principles of the republican form of government.

People share the principles of respecting and protecting the **rights and property** of others,

The purpose of **laws** is to keep people **safe** and maintain **order**.

The American people come from **different ethnic origins** and different countries, but are **united** as Americans by the **basic principles** of a **republican form of government**, including **individual rights** to life,

REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY



Our representatives in Congress make the laws

liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and equality under the law.

Benefits of diversity

- Food
- Clothing
- Music



DIVERSITY -Americans are different but united

Some of the ways that

people can **serve their community**, state, and nation include:

- Being a **volunteer**
- Getting **involved** in community projects
- **Serving** as a government official
- Joining the **military**
- **Voting**



STANDARD 2.13 – Patriotism

American symbols

- American flag
- Bald eagle
- Washington Monument
- Statue of Liberty



PATRIOTIC SYMBOLS

The United States has a national **pledge** to the flag.

The Pledge of Allegiance reads,

“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”



Pledge of Allegiance