CITIZENSHIP IN THE NATION

MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

IS EVERYONE EXCITED TO BE HERE? WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE SOMEWHERE ELSE? BE HONEST.

TOO BAD !!! LETS BEGIN AND HAVE SOME FUN!!!

CITIZENSHIP OF THE NATION

An Eagle Required Badge

Camping, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Emergency Preparedness or Lifesaving, Environmental Science, Family Life, First Aid, Personal Fitness, Personal Management, Swimming or Hiking or Cycling

WHY IS IT EAGLE REQUIRED?

Citizenship and Community values are what scouts are all about:

> ***I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to help other people at all times - <u>it all starts at home</u>!***

Knowing the history of the nation and the meaning of good citizenship will give you an appreciation of what those good and thoughtful citizens accomplished during their lifetimes to get us to where we are. We should be very grateful.

The sacrifices, ideas, & efforts are good examples for what you need to do to carry on to help improve our community, the nation, and the world. (Think of it as the ripple effect.)

Sometimes your rights and freedom can be taken for granted. It is good to stop & think on occasion about this topic. When you look at this merit badge sewn on your sash, think about our nation, how you are an important part of it, and how you have the right, duty, and the privilege to help shape your government for the benefit of all.

MERIT BADGE REQUIREMENTS

CITIZENSHIP IN THE NATION

1. Explain what citizenship in the nation means and what it takes to be a good citizen of this country..
2. Do TWO of the following and discuss what you saw and learned:
   - Visit a place that is listed as a National Historic Landmark or that is on the National Register of Historic Places.
   - Tour your state capitol building or the U.S. Capitol.
   - Tour a federal facility.
   - Choose a national monument that interests you
3. Watch the national evening news five days in a row OR read the front page of a major daily newspaper five days in a row. Discuss the national issues you learned about with your counselor. Choose one of the issues and explain how it affects you and your family.
4. Discuss each of the following documents. Explain how you feel life in the United States might be different without each one.

   A. Declaration of Independence

   B. Preamble to the Constitution

   C. The Constitution

   D. Bill of Rights

   E. Amendments to the Constitution

MERIT BADGE REQUIREMENTS

5. List the six functions of government as noted in the preamble to the Constitution. Discuss how these functions affect your family and local community.
6. Choose a speech of national historical importance. Find out about the author, and tell your counselor about the person who gave the speech. Explain the importance of the speech at the time it was given, and tell how it applies to American citizens today. Choose a sentence or two from the speech that has significant meaning to you, and tell your counselor why.
7. Name the three branches of our federal government and explain their functions. Explain how citizens are involved in each branch. For each branch of government, explain the importance of the system of checks and balances.
8. Name your two senators and the member of Congress from your congressional district. Write a letter about a national issue and send it to one of these elected officials, sharing your view with him or her. Show your letter and any response you receive

REQUIREMENTS

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COMPLETED WORK SHEETS

LEARNING SOMETHING NEW

(FUN IS AUTHORIZED)

SUCCESS

LESSON SLIDES NATION

REQUIREMENT #1

COMMUNITIES

What does citizenship in the Nation mean?

We are citizens in that we owe allegiance to our government and in return our government owes us protection. As good citizens we contribute our personal time to our American society, our local community and our friends and neighbors. We vote, pay our taxes, and follow the law. We ensure the security of our neighborhoods and work places. We volunteer our time to good causes, we respect the rights of others and demand the same for ourselves. We contribute to those less fortunate who work hard for themselves. We conduct ourselves in accordance with American family values and respect everyone's right to practice their own religion and live as they please. We know and understand our history and live up to the ideals expressed in The Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights.

WHAT ARE THE RIGHTS, DUTIES, AND OBLIGATIONS OF A RESPONSIBLE AND ACTIVE AMERICAN CITIZEN?

- FREEDOM OF RELIGION
- FREEDOM OF SPEECH
- FREEDOM OF THE PRESS
- THE RIGHT TO ASSEMBLE
- THE RIGHT TO PETITION
- THE RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS
- THE RIGHT TO A TRIAL
- OBEY LAWS
- PAY TAXES
- JURY DUTY
- SERVE AS A WITNESS
- REGISTER FOR THE SELECTIVE SERVICE

- VOTING
- HELP SOMEONE WHEN IN NEED
- GO TO WAR WHEN CALLED UPON

LESSON SLIDES
Nation

Requirement #2

WHAT BRINGS PEOPLE TO OUR COMMUNITY NOW?

Do TWO of the following and discuss what you saw and learned:

- **Visit a place that is listed as a National Historic Landmark or that is on the National Register of Historic Places. Tell what you learned about the landmark or site and what you found interesting about it.**
- **Tour your state capitol building or the U.S. Capitol. Tell what you learned about the capitol, its function, and the history.**
- **Tour a federal facility. Explain what you saw there and what you learned about its function in the local community and how it serves this nation.**
- **Choose a national monument that interests you. Using books, brochures, the Internet (with your parent's permission), and other resources, find out more about the monument. Tell what you learned, and explain why the monument is important to this country's citizens.**

TRIVIA QUIZ: NAME THESE SIGHTS IN WASHINGTON, DC

TRIVIA QUIZ: NAME THESE SIGHTS IN WASHINGTON, DC

LESSON SLIDES
Nation

Requirement #3

NATIONAL ISSUE

Watch the national evening news five days in a row OR read the front page of a major daily newspaper five days in a row. Discuss the national issues you learned about with your counselor. Choose one of the issues and explain how it affects you and your family.

TRIVIA QUIZ: NAME THESE SIGHTS IN WASHINGTON, DC

LESSON SLIDES
Nation

Requirement #4

FOUNDATION OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

Declaration of Independence

The United States Declaration of Independence was an act of the Second Continental Congress, adopted on July 4, 1776, which declared that the Thirteen Colonies in North America were "Free and Independent States" and that "all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved.

FOUNDATION OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

Preamble to the Constitution

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

FOUNDATION OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

The Constitution

Outlines the principals of our nation:

- Popular sovereignty , people have supreme power
- Limited government, can only do what the people have empowered it to do
- Separation of powers, divided amongst three branches
- Checks and balances, each branch has authority and responsibility to check (restrain) the power of the other two
- Judicial review, federal courts have the power to review the acts of the other two
- Federalism, power is shared between national and local governments

FOUNDATION OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

Congress of the United States
begun and held at the City of New-York, on
Wednesday the fourth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine

THE Convention of several States having at the time of their adopting the Constitution expressed a desire, in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers, that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added; and as extending the ground of public confidence in the Government will best secure the beneficent ends of its institution

RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, two thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following articles be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, as amendments to the Constitution of the United States, all or any of which articles, when ratified by three fourths of the said Legislatures, to be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the said Constitution, viz.

ARTICLES in addition to, and amendment of, the Constitution of the United States of America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant to the fifth article of the original Constitution.

Article the first. After the first enumeration required by the first article of the Constitution, there shall be one Representative for every thirty thousand, until the number shall amount to one hundred, after which the proportion shall be so regulated by Congress, that there shall be not less than one hundred Representatives, nor less than one Representative for every forty thousand persons, until the number of Representatives shall amount to two hundred, after which the proportion shall be so regulated by Congress, that there shall be not less than two hundred Representatives, nor more than one Representative for every fifty thousand persons.

Article the second. No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.

Article the third. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Article the fourth. A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

Article the fifth. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Article the sixth. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Article the seventh. No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself; nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Article the eighth. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defence.

Article the ninth. In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Article the tenth. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Article the eleventh. The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny, or disparage others retained by the people.

Article the twelfth. The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

ATTEST.

Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

John Adams, Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate.

John Beckley, Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Sam. A. Otis, Secretary of the Senate.

Bill of Rights

First 10 amendments sponsored by James Madison guarantee individual rights and freedoms

BILL OF RIGHTS

Amendment I

- You can say what you want and believe any religion you want. The government can't put you in jail for any of these things.
- Freedom of Speech
- Freedom of Religion
- Freedom of the Press
- Freedom of Assembly

1791

Amendment II

- Citizens have the right to a militia, and to keep and bear arms

1791

Amendment III

- Government can not take weapons away from people
- Prevents the government from housing soldiers in your home in peacetime and war time without your permission

1791

Amendment IV

- No unreasonable search and seizure
- Today that means that police must have a warrant to search your home

1791

BILL OF RIGHTS

Amendment V

- People have the right to due process, right to not self-incriminate themselves, and the right to not be tried twice for the same crime

1791

Amendment VI

- Speedy trial
- Fair Trail
- Public trials
- Impartial jury
- Right to an attorney in a criminal trial

1791

Amendment VII

- Right to a jury trial in all non criminal cases
- Prohibits retrial in any case already decided

1791

Amendment VIII

- Excessive bail shall not be required
- Excessive fines shall not be imposed
- No cruel or unusual punishments is allowed

1791

BILL OF RIGHTS

Amendment IX

- Just because a right is written into the constitution doesn't mean that the people do not have all other rights

1791

Amendment X

- Powers not delegated to the federal government by the Constitution, nor prohibited to the states by it, are reserved to the states or to the people

1791

ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Amendment XI Suit Against States (1795)
Amendment XII Election of President and Vice-President (1804)
Amendment XIII Abolition of Slavery (1865)
Amendment XIV Privileges and Immunities, Due Process, Equal Protection, Apportionment of Representatives, Civil War Disqualification and Debt (1868)
Amendment XV Rights Not to Be Denied on Account of Race (1870)
Amendment XVI Income Tax (1913)
Amendment XVII Election of Senators (1913)
Amendment XVIII Prohibition (1919)
Amendment XIX Women's Right to Vote (1920)
Amendment XX Presidential Term and Succession (1933)
Amendment XXI Repeal of Prohibition (1933)
Amendment XXII Two Term Limit on President (1951)
Amendment XXIII Presidential Vote in D.C. (1961)
Amendment XXIV Poll Tax (1964)
Amendment XXV Presidential Succession (1967)
Amendment XXVI Right to Vote at Age 18 (1971)
Amendment XXVII Compensation of Members of Congress (1992)

LESSON SLIDES COMMUNITY

REQUIREMENT #5

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION

A preamble states the purpose and objectives of a document. This Preamble was written in the belief that most people would not read the Constitution, and by having this opening phrase they would at least know the intent of the document. The rest of the Constitution explains how these objectives are to be met by various departments and layers of government.

WE THE PEOPLE - The power of the Constitution is the power of the People who support it. Without the vigilance of the People, our government is left to govern itself without the check and balance of citizens who will confront their representatives and ensure they follow Constitutional guidelines.

This Preamble lists the six goals and objectives of the federal government:

1. "form a more perfect union" - the country under the Articles of Confederation were a mess and were not really united. This Constitution was their remedy.
2. "establish Justice"
3. "insure domestic Tranquility" - in other words, to ‘keep the peace’.
4. "provide for the common defense" - the common, or equal, defense of all citizens of all states.
5. "promote the general Welfare" - as opposed to specific, group, or individual welfare. The intent here is that the federal government can do only that which supports all citizens everywhere and not a specific group or locale or even group of states.
6. "secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity"

SIX FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT

Six functions of government as noted in the preamble to the Constitution

- To form a more perfect union
  - To provide for the common defense
- To establish justice
  - To promote general welfare
- To insure domestic tranquility
  - To secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity

TRIVIA QUIZ: NAME THESE SIGHTS IN WASHINGTON, DC

TRIVIA QUIZ: NAME THIS SIGHT IN WASHINGTON, DC

LESSON SLIDES
Nation

Requirement #6

SPEECH OF NATIONAL HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

Choose a speech of national historical importance. Find out about the author, and tell your counselor about the person who gave the speech. Explain the importance of the speech at the time it was given, and tell how it applies to American citizens today. Choose a sentence or two from the speech that has significant meaning to you, and tell why.

John F. Kennedy Inaugural Address (January 20, 1961)

LESSON SLIDES
Nation

Requirement #7

THREE BRANCHES OF OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Legislative Branch

Article I of the Constitution specifies that there shall be two separate legislative bodies: a House of Representatives and a Senate. Together they are called the Congress. The two bodies of Congress work together to write, debate, and pass bills, which are then passed on to the President for approval.

There are 100 senators and 435 representatives. Each of the 50 states elects 2 senators. The number of representatives is determined by each state's population. Each member represents an area of the state, known as a congressional district. The number of representatives is based on the number of districts in a state. Therefore, states with larger populations have more representation than states with smaller populations. (ex: California has 52 representatives and Utah has only 3 representatives.)

THREE BRANCHES OF OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Executive Branch

The executive branch includes the president of the United States, the vice president, and the major departments of the government such as the Labor Department, Department of Defense, State Department, Treasury Department, Department of Justice, Department of Education etc. Each department has a leader, appointed by the president. Together, all the leaders, along with the president, vice president, and a few other people, make up the cabinet. The job of the executive branch is to enforce the laws.

THREE BRANCHES OF OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Judicial Branch

The role of the judicial branch is to interpret the nation's laws. It consists of two separate levels of courts: state courts and federal courts. The type of court that a case is tried in depends on the law that was allegedly violated. Most of the laws that govern our day-to-day living are state laws. Violations of federal law include offenses involving federal government employees, crimes committed across state lines (for example, kidnapping or evading arrest), and fraud involving the national government (such as income tax or postal fraud).

Chief Justice John Roberts

Justice John Paul Stevens

Justice Antonin Scalia

Justice Anthony Kennedy

Justice David Souter

Justice Clarence Thomas

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Justice Stephen Breyer

Justice Samuel Alito

LESSON SLIDES
Nation

Requirement #8

North Carolina – District 7

Brunswick County, Sampson County, Columbus County, Bladen County, Duplin County, Johnston County and parts of New Hanover County, Lenoir County, Cumberland County, Pender County

Representative Mike McIntyre

Senator Kay R. Hagan

Senator Richard Burr

Write a letter about a national issue and send it to one of these elected officials, sharing your view with him or her.

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

YOU EARNED THE NATION IN THE COMMUNITY