

CIVIC SMARTS:

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS, USE YOUR VOICE!





LifeSmarts

Learn it. Live it.

LifeSmarts, the nation's premier consumer program, has never been more relevant. For 30+ years, LifeSmarts has provided real-world education for students who learn about core consumer topics and develop critical thinking skills. Participants focus on five key topic areas: consumer rights and responsibilities, the environment, health and safety, personal finance, and technology. The goal of LifeSmarts is to create consumer savvy young people who will be well equipped for adult life in today's complex, global marketplace.

This lesson was developed in collaboration with LifeSmarts and 4-H. For more information and LifeSmarts resources, checkout: www.lifesmarts.org

GEORGIA
4-H



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CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Individual and collective actions designed to identify and address issues of public concern. Civic engagement can take many forms, from **individual voluntarism** to **organizational involvement** to **electoral participation**.



WHAT IS CIVIC ENGAGEMENT?

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CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- Help others
 - Volunteering
 - Community service
- Be a problem solver
- Learn about others in your community
- **Vote in elections**
- **Run for political office**
- Support local businesses and charities
- Recycle & take care of the environment

THE CONSTITUTION



- Written in 1787
- “We the People”
- Protects the rights of citizens
- Amendments
- Bill of Rights
- As citizens of our communities, we should be engaged!

ARE YOU AN ENGAGED CITIZEN?



INSTRUCTIONS

- Get into teams.
- Write your Team Name on each card.
- Work in teams. Choose the correct answer in 30 seconds or less.
- Write the answer on the card and send it to the front.
- If the answer is correct, your team gets 1 point.
- The winner is the team that gets the most points.



What is the supreme law of the land?

- a. the Constitution
- b. the Preamble
- c. the Bill of Rights



What is the supreme law of the land?

a. the Constitution ✓

b. the Preamble

c. the Bill of Rights



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**How many amendments
does the constitution have?**

a. 43

b. 35

c. 27



**How many amendments
does the constitution have?**

a. 43

b. 35

c. 27 ✓

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We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?



a. 6

b. 4

c. 2

We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?



a. 6



b. 4

c. 2



In what month do we vote for President?



a. January

b. July

c. November

In what month do we vote for President?



a. January

b. July

c. November ✓

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Under our Consitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states?

- a. Approving zoning and land use
- b. Printing money
- c. Making treaties



Under our Consitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states?

a. Approving zoning and land use ✓

b. Printing money (FEDERAL)

c. Making treaties (FEDERAL)





How many terms can the Governor of Georgia serve?



a. 2 Terms Total

b. 2 Consecutive Terms, not total

c. 4 Terms Total

How many terms can the Governor of Georgia serve?



a. 2 Terms Total

b. 2 Consecutive Terms, not total ✓

c. 4 Terms Total

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A large, bold, yellow number '7' is centered in the image. The background is split horizontally into two sections: a blue upper section and an orange lower section. Both sections feature a radial pattern of lines that converge towards the center, creating a sunburst or starburst effect. The lines are slightly darker at the edges, giving a sense of depth and movement. The overall style is clean, modern, and graphic.



**What do we show loyalty to
when we say the Pledge of
Allegiance?**

- a. the United States
- b. the flag
- c. both



**What do we show loyalty to
when we say the Pledge of
Allegiance?**

a. the United States

b. the flag

c. both ✓

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When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?

- a. December 31
- b. January 1
- c. April 15



When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?

- a. December 31
- b. January 1
- c. April 15 ✓



What is one *responsibility* that is only for a United States Citizen?

- a. Petition the government
- b. Serve on a jury
- c. Vote in a federal election



What is one *responsibility* that is only for a United States Citizen?

- a. Petition the government (Right of everyone living in the U.S.)
- b. Serve on a jury ✓
- c. Vote in a federal election (Right only for U.S. Citizen)



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What did Susan B. Anthony do?

- a. fought for civil rights
- b. freed slaves in the confederacy
- c. created the first American flag



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GREAT JOB!

RESOURCE: U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES QUESTIONS FOR THE NATURALIZATION TEST



A decorative banner at the top of the page features several triangular pennants with the American flag's stars and stripes, strung along a black line.

RIGHT TO PETITION

The right to petition protects our right to ask the government to **fix a wrong or change a policy**. We can petition the federal, state, and local governments.

CIVIL DEBATE

- **Should the U.S. lower the voting age to 16?**
 - Yes: Teens are informed and affected
 - No: Teens lack life experience
- **Should students be required to take a personal finance class before graduating?**
 - Yes: Life skills matter
 - No: It takes time from core subjects
- **Should the government regulate influencer advertising on social media?**
 - Yes: It protects young consumers from misleading ads
 - No: It limits free expression and creativity
- **Should fast food restaurants be responsible for offering only healthy menu options?**
 - Yes: They have a duty to promote public health
 - No: Consumers should make their own choices

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KEEP IT CIVIL

1. Begin with respect (verbal and nonverbal)
2. Speak from the heart (use personal experiences)
3. Listen to understand
4. It is okay to disagree (you can't unfriend or unfollow everyone in real life)

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REFLECTION

1. What did you **see** during the debate?
2. What did you **hear** during our workshop?
3. How do you **feel** about your civic engagement Responsibility?
4. How do you see the information we learned about today impacting you as a **consumer**?

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: CHALLENGE QUESTIONS

