Second Grade Social Studies Unit 1 Study Guide

Citizenship and Diversity

Civics
2.10 The student will explain the responsibilities of a good citizen, with an emphasis on
   a. respecting and protecting the rights and property of others;
   b. taking part in the voting process when making classroom decisions;
   c. describing actions that can improve the school and community;
   d. demonstrating self-discipline and self-reliance;
   e. practicing honesty and trustworthiness.

2.12 The student will understand that the people of Virginia
   a. have state and local government officials who are elected by voters;
   b. have diverse ethnic origins, customs, and traditions, who make contributions
      to their communities, and who are united as Americans by common principles.

What is a citizen?
A citizen is a person who is a member of a community, state, and country.

What is a good citizen?
A good citizen is someone who respects the rights of others.

What are some responsibilities of a good citizen?
   • Respect and protect the rights and property of others.
   • Take part in the voting process when making classroom decisions.
   • Demonstrate self-discipline and self-reliance.
   • Practice honesty and trustworthiness.
   • Describing actions that can improve the school and community.

What kinds of people are American citizens?
Many different people are American citizens. The American community is diverse!
Diverse means different. Citizens have different:
   • ethnic origins (where a family came from originally, such as Mexico, Europe, Asia, or Africa).
   • customs (It is a custom to hide eggs at Easter.)
   • traditions (It is a tradition to celebrate Christmas on December 25th.)

Even though American citizens are very diverse, Americans are also united by common principles and traditions. For example, American citizens celebrate holidays such as the 4th of July (Independence Day) and Thanksgiving.

How are state and local government official selected?
Voters in Virginia elect officials to make decisions for them in the state and local government.