

Citizenship vs Leadership

Award applications, record applications, pin applications, scholarship applications and job applications all require some examples from these two “ship” words. Many job interview questions also focus on leadership and citizenship experiences.

What is the difference?

CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship is something done for the betterment of the community

Citizenship focuses on the unnecessary services that a person provides for his or her community.

Citizenship can be considered a way to help others in need.

Citizenship Examples:

- Christmas Caroling
- A bingo event at the local retirement center
- A park clean-up day
- A trash pick-up day
- Delivering treats to local people
- Decorating windows of local businesses
- Providing child care during a town meeting
- Collecting food for the food pantry
- Running errands for a shut-in person
- Clean-up after a natural disaster.

LEADERSHIP

Leadership occurs when a person takes the initiative at a give time.

Leadership is more beind-the-scenes. An effective leader is almost invisible.

Leadership is organizing, delegating and allowing others to have a part.

Leadership Examples:

- Serving as a project leader - - club or county
- Serving as a superintendent
- Chair of a committee
- Officer for club or county-wide group
- Serving as a mentor for younger members
- Organizing an event
- Serving on a committee
- Teaching others how to do something
- Serving as a camp counselor
- Active member in Junior Leaders

Both citizenship and leadership are quite abstract. These are difficult concepts for young children to understand. However, telling members why the club participates in an activity may help them add these term to their vocabulary.

4-H LEADERSHIP TYPES

LEADERSHIP occurs when a person takes the initiative at a given time. Leadership is behind-the-scenes. An effective leader is almost invisible. Leadership is organizing, delegating and allowing others to have a part.

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

- Leadership experiences participated, such as performing at 4-H activities, camps, achievement programs, workshops, judging events, directing community tours, field trips, fairs, and others.

ELECTED LEADERSHIP

- 4-H elected offices held.

APPOINTED LEADERSHIP

- Various committees served on.

4-H PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Leadership that emphasize promoting 4-H, such as presentations to organizations, radio and/or television appearances, participation in parades, festivals, manning a display, etc.

Citizenship

Citizenship and Community Service – part of every project, or Citizenship can be a project by itself. Each 4-H member should incorporate several activities or experiences of citizenship and community service in each project in which they enroll. These experiences can be done as an organized group/club or as an individual. Discuss ways you can work in your community to promote a part of your project through associations and private businesses.

Citizenship is helping others or working for the benefit of others or the community for no pay. The 4-H members primary goal is to benefit someone else.

Club citizenship examples: host a meeting, lead pledges, serve on a committee, work with club on community service or fund raising project, 4-H'ers for 4-H donation, National 4-H Week promotion.

County citizenship examples: herdsmanship, hosting exhibit building, working in 4-H food stand, cleaning show rings and wash racks, pre and post fair clean up, work at pancake fundraiser.

Project citizenship examples:

- Help a new 4-H member with his/her project
- Serve on a committee to plan Fashion Day, decorations, or bake sale
- Be a judge's or livestock show helper in your project area at county fair
- Help at a workshop or weigh-in related to your project
- Have a display at a community fair such as Children's Safety Fair, Octoberfest, Labor Day
- Construct or paint club owned gates (or barns) for your livestock project area
- Recycle articles related to your project
- Take your project to show the people at a nursing home, preschool, day care, library, etc.
- Make a donation to charity, care facility, food pantry, needy family, fund-raiser, etc.
- Volunteer at Humane Society, clothing exchanges, Salvation Army, food pantry
- Make a gift for someone related to your project
- Care for animals, yard, garden, etc. for friends or neighbors while they are away
- Plant flowers, bake a cake, decorate tray favors, volunteer to baby sit, make bird feeders.

Citizenship Activities in the following areas

Personal Development and Self-Esteem – *Acquire life skills to become an active responsible member of one's family, community, state, and nation.*

Examples: conduct a community safety program, participate in a youth group exchange, help to establish year-long goals for your club, serve on local volunteer bureau

History and Cultural Heritage – *Develop awareness and understanding of cultures and heritage of one's family and others.*

Examples: prepare an exhibit on local history/artifacts, organize an international heritage or foods festival, participate in historic event, tour historic sites, participate in an international exchange

Government Studies – *Develop knowledge of the principles, processes and structures of government.*

Examples: attend a Citizenship Focus conference, write a letter to your Congressperson about 4-H, attend City Council or Board of Supervisors meetings to talk about 4-H, voter registration drives, assist with elections, participate in a mock trial, lead a flag salute.

Environmental Issues – *Develop awareness and understanding of environmental issues and the human impact.*

Examples: work on a community or beach clean-up, develop an exhibit on conservation, build wildlife habitats, and participate in environmental public hearings.

Societal Concerns and the Citizen's Role – *Develop awareness of societal issues and respond to the needs and rights of others through responsible social action.*

Examples: study local issues and share ideas about solutions, hold a community forum, work with food share programs, visiting convalescent homes and hospitals, identify hunger, land use, pollution or energy issues, help disseminate information and help develop solutions.

Community Service Project - encompasses any humane act serving the common good; in the interest of the community.

Examples: Can food drive, visit to convalescent home, beach clean-up.

Service Learning Project – an authentic activity that combines service and learning to address a real community need; allows one to apply learning to a community problem in collaboration with others. It includes structured time for reflection on the service experience.

Examples: storm drain painting where students learn about water issues, a disability awareness program where students raise money for March of Dimes, an environmental field studies program that involves working to protect wetlands.

Leadership is:

1. Helping an individual on a one-to-one basis (4-H members or others).
2. Helping individuals with a project in a group situation (presenting workshops, demonstrations, speeches and other oral presentations).
3. Helping individuals learn about a project through a promotion (displays, distribution of literature, etc.).
4. Planning, organizing, implementing and evaluating a program or activity.
5. Serving as a leader for a project club or regular club.
6. Serving on a committee related to your project.

List things you have done by yourself and with others that have been leadership roles in this 4-H project. Include such things as helping with camps, club activities, fairs, workshops, committee work, etc.

LEADERSHIP ROLES

A leader is a facilitator who helps the individual or group set goals and then takes a major role in helping them to reach those goals. All people have the potential for leadership to some degree, but most people must take measures to develop, refine and practice their leadership skills.

Four-H offers many opportunities for 4-H members to develop and practice leadership skills. Four-H leadership occurs when one 4-H member helps another to achieve a goal.

To be an effective leader, a 4-H member can:

- Learn a skill in a project or activity and teach it to another.
- Expand to 2 or 3 or more 4-H members in teaching the skill.
- Give a demonstration, talk or other presentation on a favorite project to a 4-H club, project group, or other groups.
- Learn additional skills and teach to others.
- Influence friends to join 4-H.
- Learn how to take part in meetings and actively participate.
- Serve as project leader in a local club.
- Serve on a committee or committees.

As experience and abilities increase, the 4-H member may assume a teen leader role. The teen leader can:

1. Assume responsibility for one or more programs planned by the club.
 - Serve as a project leader.
 - Recruit new members and guide in project selection.
 - Closely supervise a few or several 4-H members in their project work.
 - Guide 4-H members in developing and presenting a visual presentation.
 - Assist members in keeping records and preparing record books.
 - Conduct parliamentary procedure workshops for club/county officers.
 - Assist in planning and conducting 4-H programs in local clubs.
 - Teach fundamentals of judging, organizing and giving reasons.

- Help members prepare exhibits for fairs.
- Volunteer services to help with area or countywide 4-H activities.
- Serve as a county officer.
- Serve on county planning committees.
- Serve as a camp counselor.
- Conduct workshops and short courses in areas of expertise.
- Be available to other clubs in sharing skills.
- Assist in countywide 4-H activities.

4-H members should strive to seek significant, helping kinds of things in which to lead things that will make a significant difference in the lives of those they seek to lead. In this way, both the helper and those helped gain tremendously.

TIPS FOR TEEN LEADERSHIP

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS YOU COULD WORK WITH:

- Boy Scout/Girl Scouts
- Big Brothers & Big Sisters
- Senior Citizens
- Civic Groups
- Day Care Centers
- Housing Editions
- After School Day Care Programs
- School Classes
- Summer Library program

COUNTY/DISTRICT/STATE ACTIVITIES

- County Committees
- County fair
- 4-H Camp
- Live Action Demonstrations
- State Volunteers Leaders Conference
- State Fair
- National 4-H Week

LOCAL CLUB AND COUNTY SUPPORT:

1. Adopt a 1st year 4-Her and help them with their projects.
2. Work with swine producers, cattlemen association, and sheep producers to present programs or help with functions.
3. Set-up displays at the first club meeting to show younger members what they can do.
4. Help coach younger members for judging contest.
5. 4-H Membership Day - help enroll new members at school days.
6. Present 10-15 minute educational program at local club meetings on your favorite project.
7. Serve as a leader for a project club.
8. Do volunteer work or ask to observe for a day - example local veterinarian.
9. Make home visits to members with livestock projects.

**Aim your goals high
Shoot for the stars!**

Citizenship is:

The relationship between you and others. Citizenship shows that 4-H'er worked with people to carry out duties and responsibilities of being a good citizen. Citizenship activities can be helping individuals or groups, or carrying out a project individually.

Way member thinks, feels, and acts toward families, other 4-H'ers, school and church groups, other people in the community.

- Activities which help foster greater understanding of the role of community citizen.
- Activities which contribute to the welfare of local 4-H club, individuals in community or community as a whole.

List your citizenship and community service experiences in this project that contributed to the welfare of your club or group members, other individuals, or community.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: An act performed by an individual or group designed to help or improve your community. Helping your family is NOT a community service.

DEMONSTRATION: A description or illustration of a practical application either to one or a group.

WORKSHOP: A group of people meeting for instruction in a specific area of study.