

Civics and Community Explained

Key Concepts

What is community and how are you an active participant?

- **A community** is a group of people who live, work, go to school, or interact with each other in a particular area or environment. This could be based on circumstances like living in the same neighborhood or because of common interests like playing on a sports team.
- **Community** is important because it creates belonging, provides resources and assistance, encourages teamwork and collaboration, encourages a diversity of people and perspectives, and facilitates opportunities for learning and personal growth.



Reflection Activity

We participate in multiple communities. You may be a part of your school community, your neighborhood community, your family, and an after school club all at the same time. Each community benefits you in different ways. Consider three communities that you serve in as a participant. Then, share how you benefit from each.

Community	Benefits
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Now, choose a community you value the most and describe ways you can actively contribute to making that community a better place for everyone. Be specific. Consider the role you currently play and the steps you would take to become more engaged in this group.

Extension Activity

Play the iCivics game [Counties Work](https://www.icivics.org/games/counties-work) (https://www.icivics.org/games/counties-work) to learn more about the connections between civics and community. Then discuss with a friend where or how you see civics at work in your community.