Directions: Using the format below, create an acrostic poem that defines what a good citizen should know, think, believe, do, or say. You can include actions, ideas, characteristics, and feelings in your poem.

C - 
I - 
T - 
I - 
Z - 
E - 
N -
### A GOOD CITIZEN

**Directions:** Drawing on your knowledge of the American Founding documents, history, and citizenship, complete the following chart. An example is given in each column to help you get started.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What a good citizen knows…</th>
<th>What a good citizen believes…</th>
<th>What a good citizen says or does…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>the rights guaranteed in the Bill of Rights</td>
<td>loyalty to his or her country</td>
<td>speaks up when someone’s rights are being denied (including his or her own)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Knows the names of elected representatives
Knows which government body makes laws
Knows the main ideas of the Constitution
Knows that liberty means responsibility
Knows that people can take care of themselves
   Knows how a law is made
   Knows the legal voting age
Knows the responsibilities of elected officials
Knows who the American Founders were
Knows contributions of American heroes
Knows major wars and battles in history
Knows the Declaration of Independence
Knows problems facing the country today
   Knows good things about America
   Knows that all people are equal
Knows freedom is protected in America
Knows people depend on him or her to keep promises

Follows through on commitments
Believes compromise is valuable
Believes all people deserve respect
Believes people can organize to bring about results
Believes voting is a responsibility
Believes people are generally trustworthy
Believes that individuals can solve problems
Respects the views of others
Obeys just laws
Gives to charity
Listens to others
Weighs pros and cons
Considers the impact of his or her actions on others
Believes our diverse society is united by common ideals
Works to change unjust laws
Disagrees with others respectfully
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citizen Slip</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stays informed about public affairs</td>
<td>Considers the sources of news reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acts considerately towards others</td>
<td>Reads news articles on the Internet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps victims of injustice</td>
<td>Keeps promises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persuades others using reasonable arguments</td>
<td>Pays taxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaks at community meetings</td>
<td>Serves on a jury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serves as an elected official</td>
<td>Demonstrates in support of positions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starts a business</td>
<td>Writes letters to the editor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers for charity</td>
<td>Knows when government needs to be checked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participates in neighborhood watches</td>
<td>Expresses opinions on radio talk shows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runs for political office</td>
<td>Reports suspicions of crimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displays campaign buttons or signs</td>
<td>Serves in the military</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributes to political campaigns</td>
<td>Shops at local businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicates views to public officials</td>
<td>Invests in business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participates in organized groups</td>
<td>Pays bills on time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watches TV news programs</td>
<td>Takes care of his or her home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reads the newspaper</td>
<td>Provides for family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listens to news on the radio</td>
<td>Casts informed votes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Directions: Think about what you will know, believe, feel, do, or say as a good citizen in the days, weeks, and years ahead. Complete the following promise, keeping in mind your role as a U.S. citizen. Also keep in mind that as you grow older, you will learn more about your country; your feelings about your country will deepen; and you will have more rights and more responsibilities as an adult.

Tomorrow, I promise to… ____________________________________________________________

Next year, I promise to… __________________________________________________________

Five years from now, I promise to… ________________________________________________

Ten years from now, I promise to… ________________________________________________

Twenty years from now, I promise to… ______________________________________________

Signed ___________________________ Date ___________________________
Handout E
“I AM…” Poem

Directions: Complete the following poem. Your poem should refer to specific ideas, documents, and individuals from American history. It may rhyme, or it may not rhyme.

I am an American,
I wonder… _____________________________________________
I hear… _________________________________________________
I see… _________________________________________________
I want… ________________________________________________

I am an American,
I think… ________________________________________________
I know… ________________________________________________
I pretend… ______________________________________________
I feel… _________________________________________________
I touch… ________________________________________________
I worry… ________________________________________________
I cry… _________________________________________________

I am an American,
I believe… ______________________________________________
I understand… __________________________________________
I say… _________________________________________________
I dream… ________________________________________________
I try… ___________________________________________________
I hope… ________________________________________________

I am an American.
Directions: Use this page to help you identify and analyze examples of good citizenship in your home, community, state, or country. Complete the blanks once for an example of private exercise of values, and one for a public application.

Private Exercise of Civic Values

Who: ____________________________________________________________

Did what: _______________________________________________________

When/Where: ____________________________________________________

How: ___________________________________________________________

This is an example of good citizenship because: _______________________

I was affected personally by this action because: _______________________

The outcome of this action was: ____________________________________

If this person had not acted, the outcome might have been: __________

Public Exercise of Civic Values

Who: ____________________________________________________________

Did what: _______________________________________________________

When/Where: ____________________________________________________

How: ___________________________________________________________

This is an example of good citizenship because: _______________________

I was affected personally by this action because: _______________________

The outcome of this action was: ____________________________________

If this person had not acted, the outcome might have been: __________

The source for my information about this act of good citizenship is: _____________