

Rights and Responsibilities

(adapted from Florida Studies Weekly Week 27)



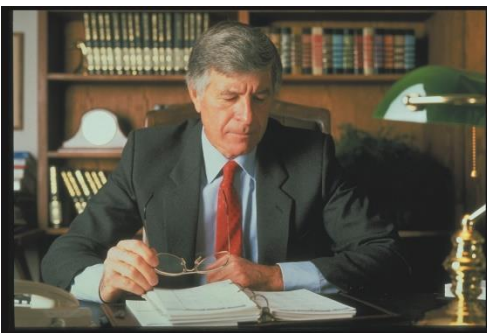
Americans believe that everyone should have equal rights. No one should be treated differently because of their age, abilities, race, religion or gender. (Gender means whether a person is a man or a woman).

Freedom of Speech

One of our most important rights is the right to free speech. Free speech is the right to express your thoughts and opinions. Free speech does not mean we can say anything we want to. We have the responsibility to tell the truth. We have the responsibility to use our words to make things better and not to hurt others.

Working Together

Everyone has the right to live in a safe, clean community. But it takes hard work to make a community a good place to live. Everyone who lives in a community must work together. We all have a responsibility to do everything we can to keep our community clean and safe.



Mayor

A mayor is the leader of a city. The people who live in a city vote for the person they want to be the mayor. A mayor has the responsibility to listen to the citizens. Mayors must do their best to make the city clean and safe for everyone. Most mayors have lots of people who help them every day.

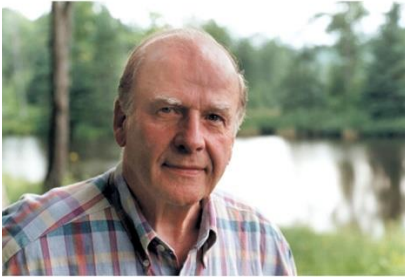


City Commissioners

City commissioners are people who help the mayor make decisions. The citizens vote for the people they want to be city commissioners. Many people have jobs that help make our cities great places to live. Police officers and firefighters help keep the city safe. Waste collectors help keep the city clean.

The Right to Vote

American citizens who are at least 18 years old have the right to vote. They elect the leaders of their city, state and country. Voting is an important responsibility, too. In some countries, citizens do not have the right to vote.



The First Earth Day

In the 1960s, a senator from Wisconsin started to worry that people were not taking very good care of the Earth. Senator Gaylord Nelson decided to try to get people to work together to stop pollution and protect the Earth. The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970. Now Americans celebrate Earth Day in April every year.

What Can You Do?

You can do many things to help make your community clean and safe. You can pick up trash. You can recycle bottles, cans and newspapers. You can follow the rules that help keep you safe, like wearing a bicycle helmet. What other ways can you think of?



Child Labor

Long ago, many children worked in factories. Factories are places where things are made. They had to work every day except Sunday and could not go to school. Many children worked in mills where cloth was made and many boys worked in mines

Name _____

Word Search

Word Bank

- mayor
- right
- vote
- factory
- earth
- recycle

V	R	R	I	G	H	T	J	V
S	O	E	I	Z	Y	R	Y	S
W	X	T	C	X	B	R	R	Y
Y	C	Y	E	Y	O	L	P	H
V	G	H	F	T	C	F	J	M
P	C	D	C	I	H	L	W	A
A	F	A	X	J	P	E	E	Y
O	F	P	R	K	A	N	T	O
E	A	R	T	H	X	B	V	R

Write a sentence about some ways you and your family can help protect the Earth.

Put these sentences in order by writing a number on the line next to each sentence.

- _____ Many Americans celebrate Earth Day in April every year.
- _____ Senator Gaylord Nelson decided to try to get people to work together to protect the Earth.
- _____ The first Earth Day happened on April 22, 1970.
- _____ A senator from Wisconsin started to worry that people were not taking very good care of the Earth.

Oceans, Rivers, and Lakes

by Linda Ruggieri



We live on a wet planet. In fact, most of the surface of Earth is covered with water.

Oceans are the largest bodies of water on Earth. A body of water is a part of Earth's surface covered with water. You probably know that ocean water is salty. Do you know why? It is mainly because rain brings salt from the land and into the ocean! Here is how that happens: Rain falls onto rocks. The rainwater breaks down salt and minerals from the rocks. The water mixes with the salt and minerals. Then it flows into the oceans.

Scientists have discovered two other sources of salty ocean water. Some salt comes from underwater volcanoes. Other salt spurts from heated vents on the ocean floor. Most ocean salt, however, starts on land.

Lakes are large bodies of water. They are surrounded by land. Lakes

usually have fresh water, but some lakes have salt water. The Great Salt Lake in Utah is a saltwater lake. Lake water does not move from place to place.

Rivers are filled with fresh water that moves from one place to another. The water in rivers comes mostly from rain. Rivers usually flow into oceans.

Streams and *creeks* are also bodies of moving fresh water. They are smaller than rivers. Streams and creeks can come together and form larger streams or rivers.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What is most of the surface of Earth covered with?

- A. land
- B. air
- C. water

2. The article lists examples of bodies of water. What is the first example it lists?

- A. creeks
- B. rivers
- C. oceans

3. "Some salt comes from underwater volcanoes. Other salt spurts from heated vents on the ocean floor."

What does this information tell us about oceans?

- A. Some of the water in oceans comes from rain.
- B. Oceans are salty.
- C. Oceans are the largest bodies of water on Earth.

4. Which body of water is most like a river?

- A. a stream
- B. a lake
- C. an ocean

5. What is the main idea of this article?

- A. Different bodies of water cover most of the earth.
- B. Rivers are bodies of fresh water that usually flow into oceans.
- C. Rainwater mixes with the salt and minerals of rocks.

6. "You probably know that ocean water is salty. Do you know why? It is mainly because rain brings salt from the land and into the ocean!"

Why might the author ask, "Do you know why?"

- A. to prove that most people do not know much about ocean water
- B. to give readers a question to think about after they finish the article
- C. to prepare readers for information that she is about to give them

7. Oceans have salt water, _____ rivers have fresh water.

- A. so
- B. because
- C. but

8. What is a difference between oceans and lakes?

9. Name one way that oceans and lakes are alike. Then name one way that rivers, streams, and creeks are alike.

10. Of all the bodies of water described in the article, which two are most similar to each other? Support your answer with evidence from the article.

Name: _____

1. For the following question use this week's Studies Weekly magazine to cite one source in your answer. (For example: You found part of the answer on Page 1 in the article "'Where is Florida?")

Long ago, many children worked in factories. Describe the two boys and the challenges they faced.



Fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

2. American citizens who are at least _____ years old have the right to vote.

- 16
- 18
- 22
- 21

3. Freedom of speech is the right to _____.

- express your thoughts and opinions
- vote when you are 18
- own a house
- go to school

4. Americans believe in _____, that no one should be treated differently because of their age, abilities, race, religion or gender.

- equal rules
- equal rights
- equal laws
- equal voting

5. Who helps the mayor make decisions for the city?

- mayor
- senator
- city commissioners
- president

6. Which celebration did Senator Gaylord Nelson begin, and how?

- Earth Day, by getting people to vote when they turn 18 years old
- Nelson Day, by getting people together to stop pollution and protect the Earth
- Nelson Day, by getting people to vote when they turn 18 years old
- Earth Day, by getting people together to stop pollution and protect the Earth

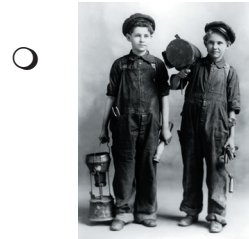
7. A _____ has the responsibility to listen to citizens and work with city commissioners to make decisions.

- mayor
- senators
- city commissioners
- citizens

8. Which statement about voting is true?

- Voting is not an important responsibility where citizens elect the leaders.
- Voting is an important responsibility where citizens elect the leaders.
- Voting is an important responsibility where citizens elect volunteers.
- Voting is not an important responsibility where citizens elect volunteers.

9. Which citizens are making choices that help keep the Earth clean and safe?



10. For the following question use this week's Studies Weekly magazine to cite one source in your answer. (For example: You found part of the answer on Page 1 in the article "'Where is Florida?')

What is one way you can make a positive contribution to your community?
