

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 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 occurs when a person takes the initiative at a given time.

Leadership is more behind-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 terms to their vocabulary.

Try to include some citizenship and leadership into the activities and experiences for each project area.