

Rights and Responsibilities

SOCIAL STUDIES / CIVICS



Book Builder

Overview

Students explore a right and the responsibility that comes with it by showing both sides in a story.

Steps for Teachers

1. Discuss the difference between a right and a responsibility
2. As a class, list rights students have at school and at home
3. Each student chooses one right and names the responsibility paired with it
4. Students plan a story where a character exercises the right
5. Students plan a second half where the character meets the responsibility, or doesn't
6. Students write the pages showing consequences for the character and for others
7. Students add a final page stating the right and its responsibility in their own words

Example

A student writes about the right to be heard. In the first half a character speaks up when a game's rules are unfair. In the second half she keeps interrupting until nobody else gets a turn, and the game stops. The last page reads: 'I have the right to speak. I have the responsibility to stop talking.'

Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Developing
Concept Clarity	The right and its responsibility are correctly paired and clearly distinguished	The pairing is reasonable but the distinction blurs	Right and responsibility are confused with each other
Consequence Reasoning	Consequences shown are realistic and affect more than the main character	Consequences are shown but only for the main character	Consequences are absent or arbitrary
Storytelling	Clear beginning, middle and end; each page turn moves the story forward	Story is organized but some pages stall or repeat	Story is disorganized or hard to follow
Book Craft	Text is easy to read, art supports every page, and the layout is consistent throughout	Pages are readable with some crowding or uneven placement	Text overlaps art or is hard to read; layout is inconsistent