

Inside Government Badge

Juniors grades 4 & 5 – Life skills

Goal: Learn more about how government is run.

Notes: This badge sheet follows the GSUSA badge steps. GSOFCT has worked with Catherine Marx, Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau, New York Regional Census Center to link the 2020 Census to this Badge. You'll find virtual links that support various badge steps and Ms Marx is volunteering to virtually visit troops*, connecting what the US Census does and the Public Policy Badge



Activity 1, Decide what being an active Citizen means to you

Decide what the 2020 Census means to your community

- a. Take a poll – Ask three families, have you completed your U.S. Census? Why do you think the Census is important to the community?
- b. Get a global view - Talk with someone born outside the United States – Ask the person, did they participate in a Census in another country? What does the U.S. Census mean to you and is it different?

Activity 2, Go inside government

Go inside the U.S. Census Bureau

- a. Catherine Marx and/or U.S. Census Bureau colleague will join troop meeting to discuss*
 - i. What is the U.S. Census Bureau
 - ii. Why is the Census safe, easy and important
 - iii. What is happening in Connecticut Communities to promote the Census
 - iv. What laws protect and guide the U.S. Census

Activity 3, Look into laws

Look into the U.S. Census Bureau

- a. Using the Statistics in Schools complete one activity <https://www.census.gov/schools/>
EXAMPLES INCLUDE
 - i. **Play It Safe!** – <https://www.census.gov/schools/activities/geography/play-it-safe-.html>
Learn how the U.S. Census Bureau helps emergency responders provide support during natural disasters.
 - ii. **Getting To Know Your Neighbor** –

<https://www.census.gov/schools/activities/geography/getting-to-know-your-neighbor.html>

Create a population pyramid using an online tool called QuickFacts to find census data on demographic characteristics for a county in 2017.

iii. **Changes in My State –**

<https://www.census.gov/schools/activities/math/state-changes.html>

Learn about your state as you collect and organize business information using State Faces for Students, a U.S. Census Bureau data tool. Examine data about kids, create bar graphs to show changes between 2010 -2016.

Activity 4, Report on the issues

Report on the 2020 Census in your community

- a. Follow the news on the Census in Connecticut, why is it important, what are the challenges
- b. Find a local group helping to promote the Census and interview them

Activity 5, Get involved in government

Get involved with the 2020 Census

- a. Tell your family and friends why the 2020 Census is safe, easy and important
- b. Create a video about what you have learned
- c. Write a letter to your local government/community group showing what you have learned

Resources

Catherine Marx

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Where can I purchase the badge?

<https://www.girlscoutshop.com/search?keywords=junior%20insie%20government>