



# Personal Responsibility second step

## ABOUT COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN

SEL Academic Integration Activities are designed for K-8 classroom teachers. These simple activities integrate self-regulation and social-emotional concepts and skill practice into academic areas (literacy, math, science, social studies, fine art, music, and physical education). The activities are adapted from Second Step: Skills for Social and Academic Success.

# Social Studies, Responsible Citizens

By: Second Step



## Social Studies

### Responsible Citizens

As citizens of many types of communities (classroom, school, state, province, country) we all have rights—but we have responsibilities too. What are those responsibilities? Choose a community of which all students are a part. Have students work in pairs to come up with a list of what they think their responsibilities are as citizens of the chosen community. Then have students respond to some of the following questions: **How does having empathy and respect for others make you a better citizen in your community? Why is it important to listen to others in your community? How can showing compassion for others help your community? Why is it important to be able to understand other people’s perspectives when you are part of a community?**

**Excerpted from:** Academic Integration Activities in the *Second Step* Grade 5 Empathy and Skills for Learning Units

**Unit goal:** To develop students’ ability to have empathy for others and express compassion; to build students’ skills for succeeding in school

secondSTEP  
Early Learning–Grade 8

The research-based *Second Step* program teaches students social-emotional skills that help prevent problem behaviors; build safe, supportive schools; and empower success.