Eagle Forum of Alabama

AMERICA 250th Family Challenge



★ OCTOBER ★

Civic Responsibility: A Stronger America Together

Rediscovering Our Founding – One Month at a Time.

www.AlabamaEagle.org

October

Civic Duty

A Stronger America Together

INTRODUCTION

“The price of liberty is eternal vigilance.” — Often attributed to Thomas Jefferson

As we celebrate America's 250th birthday, we are reminded that the freedoms we enjoy did not come easily—and they cannot be preserved without the active participation of responsible citizens.

Our Founding Fathers understood that self-government requires more than a Constitution and good laws. It requires citizens of good character who are willing to do their part. They believed that liberty and responsibility go hand in hand. A free nation depends upon people who are informed, engaged, and committed to doing what is right. In colonial America, citizens gathered in churches, town halls, and public squares to discuss important issues, make decisions, and help govern their communities. These early practices helped establish the American tradition of government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

Today, civic duty includes voting, understanding our Constitution, staying informed about important issues, serving our communities, respecting the rights of others, and holding elected officials accountable. It also means teaching the next generation to value freedom, practice personal responsibility, and recognize that their voices and actions matter.

Civic responsibility begins at home. Families play an essential role in raising future citizens who understand that freedom is both a blessing and a responsibility. Even children can begin practicing good citizenship by showing respect, helping others, telling the truth, and taking responsibility for their actions.



October FAMILY CHALLENGE

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ACTIVITY

Campaign for Office! Hold a Family Election!

In colonial America, citizens helped shape their communities by choosing leaders and participating in local government. Although voting rights were limited in colonial times, the tradition of representative government helped lay the foundation for America's democracy. This month, your family will experience the excitement of an election! Everyone gets a chance to run for office, campaign for votes, and cast a ballot. Who will win your family's election?



STEP 1: Choose Your Office!

- Mayor: Promises to make the town a better place.
- Governor: Has big plans for improving the state.
- Sheriff: Wants to keep the community safe.
- Commissioner of Parks: Wants better parks and playgrounds.
- Commissioner of Fun: Promises more family activities and celebrations!

STEP 2: Hit the Campaign Trail!

Every candidate must create a campaign that includes:

- A Campaign Slogan: Make it catchy and memorable!
- A Campaign Poster: Make a colorful sign encouraging people to vote for you.
- Three Campaign Promises: What would you do if elected? Be creative, but make your promises realistic!

STEP 3: Give Your Campaign Speech!

- Gather the family for campaign speeches. Each candidate gets 1–2 minutes to explain:
- Why should people vote for you?
- What are your three campaign promises?
- How will you make your community a better place?
- Campaign Rule: No interrupting or criticizing other candidates. Focus on your own ideas and listen respectfully!

STEP 4: Election Day!

It's time to vote!

- Write each candidate's name on a paper ballot.
- Set up a private voting area.
- Each voter secretly chooses ONE candidate.
- Place the ballots in a box or bowl.
- Count the votes together and announce the winner!

Important: Everyone gets one vote, and no one may vote for themselves!

October

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FAMILY CHALLENGE



October Devotional

The First Prayer of the Continental Congress

On September 7, 1774, delegates to the First Continental Congress gathered at Carpenters' Hall in Philadelphia. Before conducting their business, they heard Scripture and joined in prayer led by Reverend Jacob Duché, an Anglican minister from Philadelphia.

The prayer asked God to guide their decisions, establish peace, and help justice and righteousness flourish throughout the colonies. His prayer reminds us that government leaders carry great responsibilities and need wisdom, courage, and integrity.

Excerpt from the prayer: “Be Thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly; enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundation.”

More than 250 years later, we can follow this example by praying for our President, Governor, legislators, judges, and local officials. We can ask God to help them govern wisely, uphold justice, and protect the freedoms we enjoy.

Scripture: “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.” 1 Timothy 2:1-2 (KJV)

Family Challenge: Gather together and pray for the leaders of our nation, state, and community. Ask God to give them wisdom to make good decisions and courage to do what is right.



Find the answers on the bottom of the word search page.

1. What did people ring to warn their neighbors of danger?
2. What did neighbors often work together to build for a farmer?
3. Who helped put out fires in towns?
4. Which Founding Father helped organize a volunteer fire company in Philadelphia?
5. What building was often used for both worship and community meetings?
6. What did families often bring to help sick or needy neighbors?
7. What did people sometimes sign to ask their government to correct a problem?

Family GAME

PRISONER'S BASE



An old-fashioned game of teamwork, courage, and strategy

What You Need: At least six players, an open grassy area, and two trees or other landmarks to serve as team bases.

How to Play (Simplified Family Version):

1. Divide players into two teams. Each team chooses a home base on opposite sides of the yard.
2. Players run out from their bases and try to tag members of the opposing team.
3. When tagged, a player must go to a designated "prison" near the opposing team's base.
4. Teammates can rescue prisoners by reaching them and tagging them without being caught.
5. The first team to capture all the opposing players wins!

Civic Duty Connection: Just as colonial communities depended on neighbors helping one another, this game teaches children the importance of teamwork, loyalty, courage, and helping those in need.

Historical Fun Fact: Prisoner's Base was a popular chasing game in colonial America. Children could play it without purchasing toys or equipment.

WORD Search

Kids' Puzzle

LEADER
COUNTRY
HONOR
LAWS
KINDNESS
VOTE
FLAG
FREEDOM
HELP
SERVE

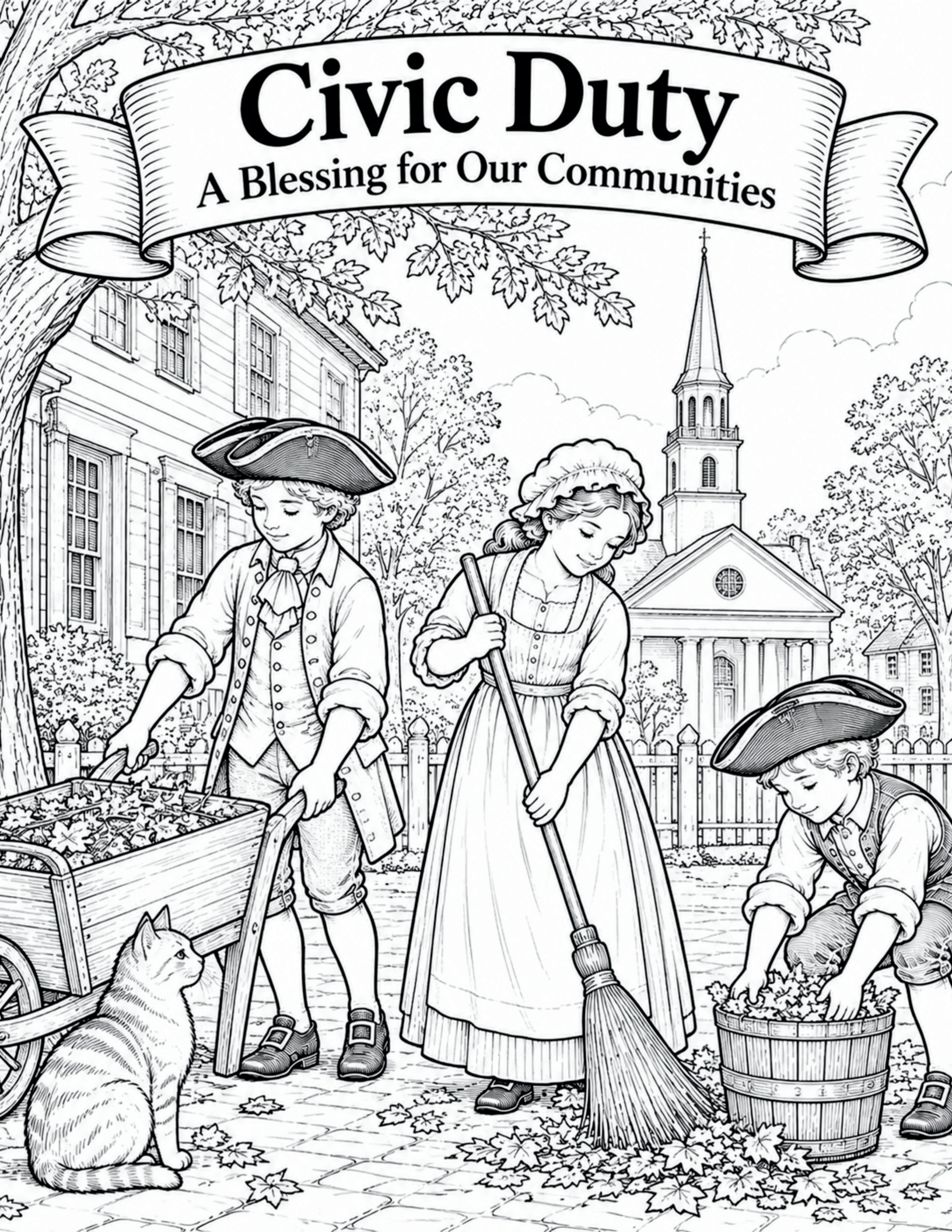
S C D Y O C V L R I
E C Y W I V O T E Y
R D L H O N O R B L
V K I N D N E S S E
E J N H D L M Q F A
M W A I J W N K L D
F L A G H E L P A E
Q Z X Y Z W T S W R
O C O U N T R Y S E
Y F R E E D O M A E

Teen Puzzle

CITIZENSHIP
RESPONSIBILITY
PATRIOTISM
CONSTITUTION
SELF-GOVERNMENT
PARTICIPATION
ACCOUNTABILITY
LEADERSHIP
ELECTIONS
REPRESENTATION
VOLUNTEERISM
COMMUNITY
LIBERTY
INTEGRITY
SERVICE

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

1. a bell, 2. a barn, 3. volunteers, 4. Benjamin Franklin, 5. churches, 6. food, 7. a petition


Civic Duty
A Blessing for Our Communities

Eagle Forum of Alabama

ABOUT US

Eagle Forum of Alabama is dedicated to promoting strong families, informed citizens, and the timeless principles that made America great. Through education, advocacy, and programs fostered by our Action Groups and Student Eagles, we are investing in the next generation of leaders.

If your family enjoyed this month's challenge, you're already part of something bigger. Together, we are raising the next generation to love truth, cherish freedom, and live with purpose.

WWW.ALABAMAEAGLE.ORG

Check out www.AlabamaEagle.org for:

- Weekly Alabama legislative updates
- Blog posts & news updates on issues impacting Alabama families
- Access educational resources like the America 250 Family Challenge
- Learn about Student Eagles and how teens can get involved
- Find upcoming EFA events and conferences
- Take action with alerts to make your voice heard
- Support our work to strengthen families & communities across Alabama
- Find links to our social media and Youtube channel

DONATE!

We're YOUR voice at the State House—and your partner in raising informed, confident citizens. We are deeply grateful for your financial support, which makes it possible for us to continue educating, equipping, and advocating for strong families across Alabama.