In this guide you will find a list of activities that can be used to continue the conversation and support the themes explored in *Start the Conversation Civic Duty & Voting*. These activities can be practiced at home, in the classroom, in childcare centers, at the park, and in other community spaces and can be modified to support a wide range of ages. Choose what activities you feel are best for you and the young people in your life!

**Pre-Video Activities:**

*Before watching the video with your young person, discuss the following vocabulary words and questions.*

**Citizen:**
There are multiple definitions of citizen. Discuss them both with your young person.

1) A person who lives in a particular place and is a member of the community.
2) A person who legally belongs to, gives allegiance to, and has the rights and protections of a country. (Simplified: A citizen is a person who is a legal resident of a country).

A person does not have to be a citizen to be part of a community.

*What does being a citizen mean to you?*

**Community:**
A community is a group of people living, working or visiting the same area. People in communities might also do and like the same things and they might not.

*What communities do you belong to?*

**Responsibility:**
Responsibility means being dependable, making good choices, and taking accountability for your actions. A responsible citizen looks out for the well being of others and understands we all have a part to play in making the world a better place.

*What are some of the responsibilities you have in your communities?*

**Activities for Children:**

- Research Your Vote
Start the Conversation | CIVIC DUTY & VOTING
Activity Guide

With your young person, jot down a list of the people, issues and topics you are thinking about in preparation for your next election. Who are the people, communities, and issues that you are taking into consideration? Who/what has been left out? What things is your young person passionate about? How would they cast their vote? And how might their opinions influence your vote?

- **Make a Voting Plan**
  After watching the video, talk with your young person about the election. Do you have a voting plan? Share how you are voting this year or why you can’t. Ask your young person what things they think are important to think about when voting. If possible, bring your young person (people) with you to vote on election day!

- **Create a Community Map**
  Using art supplies, ask your young person to create a map of the different communities they belong to (i.e. home, school, clubs, countries, states, cultural, racial/ethnic, social communities). Encourage young people to use different colors and shapes to represent each community.

  After creating the map, discuss what communities they feel most connect to and why? Which communities would they like to be more or less connected to? Discuss their (and your) role in each of those communities. How is the community supporting you and how are you supporting them?

- **Community Engagement Calendar**
  Create a calendar that maps out different community events and acts of community service and engagement that you and your young people can engage in each month. It can be helpful for young people to visualize their connection to community. The calendar may also support adults to seek out more engagement opportunities.

Activities for Grown-Ups:

Are you ready to continue this conversation?

Children learn from what is modeled by their parents. How are you engaging in your community and practicing your civic duty? Just like your little one did in the video, reflect on the following questions…

1) A Citizen can help a neighbor
   - How can you help a neighbor?
2) A Citizen can right a wrong
What is a wrong that you can right in your community?

3) A Citizen should be engaged
   ○ How can you be engaged in your community?

Take a look at our resource guide for ways to further engage your young person in conversation about civic duty, voting, citizenship and immigration.

Activities from the Video:

A Vote for Our Future
   ● Share a sound a move to describe how you feel about:
     ○ Not everyone having the right to vote
     ○ After reading “A Vote for Our Future”
     ○ Tip: Ask your child to express their feelings about other issues related to

What Can a Citizen Do?
   1) A Citizen can help a neighbor
      ○ How can you help a neighbor?
   2) A Citizen can right a wrong
      ○ What is wrong that you can right in your community?
   3) A Citizen should be engaged
      ○ How can you be engaged in your community?

What Can a Non-Citizen Do?
A person does not have to be a citizen to be part of a community. Reflect on the following questions:
   ● How do you show up as a member of your community? How are you treated by your community?
   ● How do we want to be supported by our communities?
   ● How can we support, take care of and account for everyone in our community, regardless of citizenship status?

Additional Books:
   ● Grace for President by Kelly Dipucchio
   ● Otto Runs For President by Rosemary Wells
   ● Vote for ME! by Ben Clanton
   ● Letters from the Campaign Trail: LaRue for Mayor by Mark Teague
   ● If I Ran for President by Catherine Stier
   ● Vote! by Eileen Christelow