



# CLOVIS VETERANS MEMORIAL DISTRICT

## 2022 Veterans Day Essay Contest Teacher's Guide- MIDDLE/INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

### **2022: “Every Good Citizen Adds to the Strength of Our Nation”**

The mission of the Clovis Veterans Memorial District (CVMD) is to ‘Provide a permanent living memorial honoring U.S. Military and Veterans; provide facilities and support programs to promote a legacy of service for preserving our community’s and country’s foundational ideals. Veterans Day is an opportunity to honor and give thanks to those who have served or are serving in the military, those who preserve the American way of life. This year’s theme asks students to learn about the history of World War II and express why they feel it is important to remember D-Day.

The resources included in this Teacher’s Guide can be used to talk to your class about the history of Veterans Day and introduce them to this year’s theme: “1776: The American Dream.”

#### **History of Veterans Day:**

Veterans Day is held on November 11<sup>th</sup>, which began as a celebration of peace after World War I ended. It was originally called Armistice Day, to celebrate the truce signed between America and Germany during World War I. In 1954 the name was changed to Veterans Day, to honor all veterans.

*Resources for teaching your students about Veterans Day:*

[Veterans Day and the Meaning of Sacrifice](#)

[History of Veterans Day](#) (Video)

[The History of Veterans Day](#)

#### **What is a citizen?**

A citizen is a member of a community, state, or nation. Citizens have rights and responsibilities as family members, as students in a classroom and school, and as members of their community, state and nation.

#### **What does it mean to be a “good citizen”?**

Being a good citizen means that you follow the rules and laws of your country or community, that you are responsible and respectful, and that you help others when you can. The U.S. Bill of Rights gives individuals certain rights that cannot be taken away, a good citizen does not take away the rights of their neighbors or other members of the community. To be a good citizen you must also be informed about our government and community responsibilities. Voting in elections, volunteering for community events and helping people in need are all ways that you can be a good citizen.

### **How can students add to the strength of our nation?**

By being a good citizen, you can help add to the strength of our nation. You can start while in school, being a good citizen and following the schools' rules.

### **Starting a conversation...**

Introduce Veterans Day to your students, and the reason why we celebrate our Veterans as heroes. Review what a citizen is and how each student can make a difference by being a good citizen in their community.

Discuss with the students

- What is a citizen?
- What is the duty of a citizen?
- How can you be a good citizen?
- What can you do to strengthen our nation?

### **Resources**

*When You Grow Up to Vote* by Eleanor Roosevelt

*What Can a Citizen Do?* By Dave Eggers

[Duties and Responsibilities of Citizens](#)

[How to Give Back to Our Communities](#)

[Citizens Unite! A Helpful Guide to Being a Better Citizen](#)

[What is a Good Citizen?](#)

### **“Every Good Citizen Adds to the Strength of Our Nation” Prompt:**

Create a 2-4 page essay around the theme “Every Good Citizen Adds to the Strength of Our Nation.”

#### **How to Enter:**

Submit your essay with Entry Form to the Clovis Veterans Memorial District, 808 Fourth Street, Clovis, CA 93612. If you have any questions regarding the contest please call the Clovis Veterans Memorial District at (559) 299-0471.

**Related Common Core Standards:**

*7<sup>th</sup> Grade*

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.2b

Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.7

Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generate additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.

*8<sup>th</sup> Grade*

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.8.2

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.8.9

Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis and research.