

## Cornerstones of Democracy

Did you know that there are three cornerstones of democracy? The three cornerstones of democracy are civics, civility, and collaboration. Civics are the studies of the rights and responsibilities that we have as U.S. citizens. As U.S. citizens we have many rights and responsibilities. Some rights that we have are that we can vote, we can worship however we want to, we have free speech, and we get a fair trial. Some responsibilities that we have as U.S. citizens are to pay taxes, to be civil to others' opinions, and to obey government laws. Civics are important because it keeps our community safe and organized.

Civility is when people act civil, like showing politeness. An example of showing civility is being respectful to people even if you don't agree with them. Another example is using the right tones in the setting you're in at the time. The last example of showing civility is not stirring up conflict. Instead of stirring up conflict, you can respond maturely and respectfully. Civility is important because it can prevent violent arguments.

Collaboration is when people come together to work together. Some examples of collaboration are not ignoring people and always communicating so you can always help people. Another example of collaboration is supporting people and teaching them things in a respectful manner. The last example of collaboration is to be encouraging and make people want to work with you. Collaboration is important because it can cause people to get to know each other, and it can make a project go faster. The three cornerstones of democracy: civics, civility, and collaboration, should be important to all U.S. citizens.