

Observing my City and Acting as an Active Citizen through the Citizen App



Lesson Plan

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Title of Activity: Observing my City and Acting as an Active Citizen through the Citizen App	Subject area: Social & Civic Education – Environmental Education – Digital Literacy – Project
Grade Level(s): 12–14 years old	Duration: 2–3 teaching hours

Learning objectives:

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Understand the concept of active citizenship in daily life.
- Become familiar with the Citizen App ¹as a tool for social participation.
- Develop skills in observation, documentation, and critical thinking.
- Identify neighborhood or city problems that affect quality of life.
- Learn to formulate responsible and evidence-based requests to the Municipality.
- Realize that their voice has value and can contribute to positive changes.

Teaching Method:

Experiential learning & Collaborative learning

Teaching Techniques: Field research, presentation, app demonstration, group work, observation, discussion, reflection.

Materials / Resources / Technology use:

- Mobile phone / tablet or projector
- Access to the Citizen App
- Observation sheets
- Photographic recording (optional)
- ACC reflection tools (Active Citizen Compass)

Activity Description:

The activity begins with a discussion centered on the question: *“What bothers us or what would we like to improve in our neighborhood and our city?”* The teacher introduces the concept of active citizenship and presents the **Citizen App** as a

¹¹ **Note:** Any reference to the "Citizen App" refers to the specific official mobile application used by the local municipality or city of residence. Teachers and students are encouraged to use the corresponding digital platform available in their own region to ensure the activity remains relevant and impactful for their local community.

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communication and cooperation tool between citizens and the Municipality. A connection is made with the goals of the **Active Citizen Compass** project.

Step 1: Presentation of the Citizen App

The teacher demonstrates:

- The functionality of the application.
- Types of reports available.
- How to record an issue (location, description, documentation, photos).
- The importance of responsible, democratic, and collaborative discourse.

Step 2: Observation of the Urban Environment

In small groups, students:

- Observe the neighborhood around the school, their homes, or the city in general.
- Identify issues affecting daily life (e.g., cleanliness, accessibility, safety, public spaces, environment, infrastructure).
- Record what they see, where it is located, and who is affected.

Step 3: Drafting Reports / Proposals

Each group:

- Selects one issue they consider significant.
- Drafts a model report via the **Citizen App**.
- Clearly states the problem and a proposed solution.
- Presents and discusses their reports in class.

Closing the Activity: Students reflect on the following:

1. What did I learn about my city?
2. How did I feel expressing my opinion as a citizen?
3. What change would I like to see happen?

The teacher summarizes the role of the active citizen: **Observe – Participate – Propose – Claim Responsibly**, highlighting that democracy is built through small daily acts.

Closure

Students reflect on the following:

1. What did I learn about my city?
2. How did I feel expressing my opinion as a citizen?
3. What change would I like to see happen?

The teacher summarizes the role of the active citizen: **Observe – Participate – Propose – Claim Responsibly**, highlighting that democracy is built through small daily acts.

Assesment:

- Participation and collaboration within the group.
- Quality of observation and documentation of proposals.
- Clarity and responsibility of the proposals.
- Student reflection.