

Growing Great Citizens

It's a Fact.

Great citizens aren't born, they're made. Children who get involved in the community at a young age, come to understand and become more connected to the world. They grow into citizens who want to make positive changes.

Citizen engagement—participation—builds great communities; and the reverse is also true.

Participation, engagement in the community, builds great citizens.

Growing Your Great Citizen

The research shows that you are your child's first and most influential teacher. What you teach can influence their lives in a very significant way.

By doing what comes naturally, you have the power to guide and change the course of a life. It can be simple shared experiences, talking about things that are going on in the world and encouraging questions.

At election time, take your child with you when you vote. Talk about why you vote. If your child is older, talk about the issues, what democracy is and why you participate.

Check out Talking To Kids on the Growing Great Citizens website to find ways you can help grow the young engaged citizen in your life.

Why Grow An Engaged Citizen?

It is clear the community benefits from engaged citizens, but research is just as clear that engaged citizens are significantly more likely to feel part of a community, feel secure in that community and have a healthy sense of self-worth.

Children start learning the day they are born. The lessons and values we learn in childhood remain with us for the rest of our lives.

Civics: too cool and important (just) for school!

The world has become a very complex place and though citizenship is in Nova Scotia's school curriculum, it's a tight squeeze.

Research shows family political discussions have positive civic outcomes. Young people who discuss current events more frequently with their parents report higher levels of political knowledge, public communication skills and community service. The result is a child who is better equipped to make his or her way in the world, on whatever path they choose.

Bring your child with you when you vote!



**ELECTIONS
NOVA SCOTIA**



visit: growinggreatcitizens.ca

