

Citizenship in the World Merit Badge Pre-Work

- Citizenship in the World is a five-hour session.
- Scouts are required to wear masks and follow social distancing recommendations both in the classroom and outside.
- Scouts must submit prework to their counselor by email ahead of the merit badge session. Counselors will not collect physical copies of prework during the class. Please note that we are unable to open Google Docs on Fairfax County Government computers. Prework requirements must be sent as an attachment.
- Counselors will provide Blue Cards that have been signed and completed before the merit badge session.
- Water fountains will not be available
- Scouts should bring a snack and plenty of water. Please no red liquids.
- Part of the session is outdoors. Please wear sunscreen, insect repellent and appropriate shoes.

Pre-work

3 a. Pick a current world event. In relation to this current event, discuss with your counselor how a country's national interest, history, and its relationship with other countries might affect areas such as its security, its economy, its values, and the health of its citizens.

AND

3b. Select a foreign country and discuss with your counselor how its geography, natural resources, and climate influence its economy and its global partnerships with other countries.

4. Do ONE of the following:

a. Explain international law and how it differs from national law. Explain the role of international law and how international law can be used as a tool for conflict resolution.

b. Using resources such as major daily newspapers, the Internet (with your parent's permission), and news magazines, observe a current issue that involves international trade, foreign exchange, balance of payments, tariffs, and free trade. Explain what you have learned. Include in your discussion an explanation of why countries must cooperate for world trade and global competition to thrive.

7. Do TWO of the following and share with your counselor what you have learned:

a. Visit the website (with your parent/guardian's permission) of the U.S. State Department. Learn more about an issue you find interesting that is discussed there.

b. Visit the website (with your parent/guardian's permission) of an international news organization or foreign government, OR examine a foreign newspaper available at your local library, bookstore, or newsstand. Find a news story about a human right realized in the United States that is not recognized in another country.

c. Visit with a student or scout from another country and discuss the typical values, holidays, ethnic foods, and traditions practiced or enjoyed there.

d. Attend a world scout jamboree.

e. Participate in or attend an international event in your area, such as an ethnic festival, concert, or play.

For help or questions, contact Emily Cole at Emily.cole@fairfaxcounty.gov, or at (703) 941-1065.