

K-2 Local Government Inquiry

How Do City Leaders Help Me?



Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg holds a copy of the consent decree that the city entered into with the U. S. Department of Justice on Dec. 12, 2024. (<https://www.lpm.org/news/2024-12-12/louisville-signs-consent-decree-starting-lengthy-police-reform-effort>)

Supporting Questions

SQ #1 What are the responsibilities of a mayor?

SQ#2 What are the responsibilities of a city council member?

SQ #3 What are the responsibilities of a commissioner?

SQ #4 What are the responsibilities of a city manager?

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Compelling Question?	
Standards and Content	<p>K.C.CP.1 Explain the purpose of local government.</p> <p>K.C.RR.1 Identify roles and responsibilities of self and others at home, in school, and in neighborhood settings.</p> <p>K.C.KGO.1 Identify leaders in the local community and explain their roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>K.I.U.2 Construct responses to compelling questions about one's self and one's community.</p> <p>K.I.CC.1 Construct an explanation about their community's civic life, history, geography, and/or economy.</p> <p>K.I.CC.3 Identify ways to civically engage at school.</p>
Vocabulary	<p>1.C.KGO.1 Identify Kentucky leaders and explain their roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>1.E.MA.1 Describe how different jobs, as well as public and private institutions, help people in the community.</p> <p>1.I.U.1 Identify information from two or more sources to describe multiple perspectives about communities in Kentucky.</p> <p>1.I.U.2 Construct responses to compelling and supporting questions about communities in Kentucky.</p> <p>2.C.CP.2 Explain that the functions of effective government are to create order, establish justice, and meet the needs of their citizens.</p> <p>2.C.RR.1 Describe the importance of civic participation.</p> <p>2.C.CV.1 Evaluate how civic virtues guide governments, societies, and communities.</p> <p>2.C.CV.2 Evaluate how democratic principles guide governments, societies, and communities.</p> <p>2.I.CC.3 Identify ways to civically engage in Kentucky.</p> <p>2.I.CC.4 Use listening and consensus-building procedures to discuss how to take action in the local community or Kentucky.</p> <p>2.I.U.4 Construct responses to compelling and supporting questions using reasoning, examples, and details, about the diversity of communities in North America.</p> <p>city manager, city, city council, clerk, commissioner, council member, administrator, government, local, mayor, official, taxes, budget, county, laws, rules</p>
Staging the Compelling Question	<p>Ask students to answer the following question: What do you think a mayor's day looks like? In other words, what do you think a mayor does all day? Show a picture of your city's mayor on the board while they answer the question.</p> <p>Next, play It's All Local.</p>

Supporting Question 1	Supporting Question 2	Supporting Question 3	Supporting Question 4
SQ #1 What are the responsibilities of a mayor?	SQ#2 What are the responsibilities of a city council member?	SQ #3 What are the responsibilities of a commissioner?	SQ #4 What are the responsibilities of a city manager?

Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task
<p>After discussing the responsibilities of a mayor, create a list of a mayor's duties. Students can draw and write about what it's like to be a mayor. This can be a page in the activity book, a poster, or completed on blank paper. Students may work independently, in pairs, or in groups.</p>	<p>City Budget Game: You can play this as a whole class if you feel that is best.</p> <p>After discussing the responsibilities of a city council member, create a list of a council member's duties. Students can draw and write about what it's like to be on the city council. This can be a page in the activity book, a poster, or completed on blank paper. Students may work independently, in pairs, or in groups.</p>	<p>After discussing the responsibilities of a commissioner, create a list of a commissioner's duties. Students can draw and write about what it's like to be a commissioner. This can be a page in the activity book, a poster, or completed on blank paper. Students may work independently, in pairs, or in groups.</p>	<p>After discussing the responsibilities of a city manager, create a list of a city manager's duties.</p>
Featured Sources	Featured Sources	Featured Sources	Featured Sources
<p>Source A: Responsibilities of city council members and the mayor</p> <p>Source B: A Day In The Life Of Lexington Mayor Linda Gorton</p>	<p>Source A: Responsibilities of city council members and the mayor</p> <p>Source B: Local Taxes</p> <p>Source C: City Ordinance Examples (Choose ordinances that appeal to the students, such as animals or litter. Only read the most important parts and consider paraphrasing them.)</p>	<p>Source A: Commissioner video</p>	<p>Source A: Responsibilities of local officials in a City Manager form of government (Bowling Green)</p> <p>Source B: Responsibilities of city managers video</p>

<p>Summative Performance Task</p>	<p>Argument: Next, students will prioritize the responsibilities of local leaders by putting them in order of importance. Have students defend their answers. This will take some guidance, but with questioning and scaffolding, students will be able to tell you what they think is most important and why they think that.</p> <p>Explanation: [How do city leaders help me?] Construct an argument to answer the compelling question using evidence from sources to support your claim. (arguments can be in the form of posters, brochures, picture with sentences, etc.)</p> <p>Sentence starter: A city leader has a lot of responsibilities. For example, _____.</p> <p>Another example is _____.</p> <p>When city leaders carry out their duties, it helps me by _____.</p> <p>(A student might write about one responsibility of a mayor and one of a city council member. Answers may vary. To describe how city leaders help me when they carry out their duties, a student might write: by keeping</p>
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	<p>me safe and working to meet my needs. Again, answers will vary.)</p> <p>Extension: Using knowledge gained in this lesson, choose one of the following writing prompts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If I were mayor... • If I was on city council... • If I were a local leader... <p>The students should also draw a picture of themselves in the position they are writing about. Use knowledge of your students to choose the prompt that works best for them.</p> <p>(This could be a page added to the activity book.)</p>
<p>Taking Informed Action</p>	<p>Act: Create a video about the daily life of a local leader in your city. The class should work together to create a list of questions to ask the local leader about what their daily schedule looks like and how it helps others.</p>

**Featured sources are suggested and links are provided. These links may be broken, and we apologize in advance for the inconvenience.*