



Activity Worksheet

Name: _____ **Class:** _____

Date: _____ **Score:** _____

Instructions:

Answer the questions below by going to the **USA.gov** website—**www.USA.gov**. **USA.gov** is the U.S. Government's official web portal and links you to thousands of federal, state, and local sites, along with some of the best sites from other organizations. Through **USA.gov**, you will learn more about the wealth of government information that is available. You can look by subject, by agency, by type of user (kids vs. parents) or use the search feature to find the information that will answer the questions. Fill in the blanks or circle the correct answer.

Questions:

1. Your family is planning a trip to Statue of Liberty on Liberty Island in New York. During what hours is the island open to visitors?

2. You're looking forward to studying abroad in Spain next semester, but you need a passport. This is your first time applying for one, so you want to apply in person. When is it recommended that you do this?

- a. Four weeks before you plan to leave
- b. The day before you plan to leave
- c. At least six weeks before you plan to leave

3. During your school trip to the National Zoo in Washington, DC you want to pick up a "Playful Panda Mother and Baby" stuffed animal set to remember your visit to the pandas. If you would rather not carry it home, you can purchase it online for how much?

4. Young men and women need calcium to strengthen their bones and prevent osteoporosis. Calcium can be found in milk, and in some other foods that may surprise you.

True or False: Dark green vegetables like broccoli are a good source of calcium.



LESSON PLAN: “USA.gov FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS”

- **GRADES:** 9–12
- **TIME:** 1 hour or less
- **SUBJECT:** Government Information in Daily Life

This is an activity that will familiarize youth with the USA.gov website. USA.gov provides links to federal sites along with some of best sites from other organizations-all grouped by subject. Students will use the worksheet provided to search for answers on USA.gov. This fun and dynamic activity will provide young citizens with information and skills that will be beneficial today, and for the rest of the lives.

OBJECTIVES:

Short Term—

- To develop an awareness of USA.gov and its usefulness.
- To improve Internet search skills.

Long Term—

- To build student confidence by empowering them with search skills and a central portal to the federal government.

MATERIALS:

Access to the Internet to search USA.gov (at home or in class as a group) and a copy of the activity worksheet.

PROCEDURES:

Give each student an activity sheet and have him or her answer the ten questions by using USA.gov (the instructions are also given on the activity page). Questions include multiple choice, true/false, and fill-in-the-blank. Use the answers to spark discussion. For example, was there more than one way to find an answer? How is this information going to be useful in everyday life?

ANSWERS:

All answers are accessible through the “Citizens” gateway at USA.gov. Simply click on the “For Citizens” tab at www.USA.gov.

1. Your family is planning a trip to Statue of Liberty on Liberty Island in New York. During what hours is the island open to visitors?

The answer is 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Click on "Travel and Recreation," then go to "Recreation and Tourism" and then click on "National Park Service." Then select New York" in the drop-down list. On the search results page, click on "Statue of Liberty National Monument." Then click on "Statue of Liberty National Monument Web Site," and then click on "Operating Hours and Seasons." The URL for this page is <http://www.nps.gov/stli/planyourvisit/hours.htm>.

2. You're looking forward to studying abroad in Spain next semester, but you need a passport. This is your first time applying for one, so you want to apply in person. When is it recommended that you do this?

The answer is "c"—at least six weeks before you plan to leave. Click on "Get or Renew a Passport," then click "Passport Application Processing Times." The URL for this page is http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/processing/processing_1740.html.

3. During your school trip to the National Zoo in Washington, DC you want to pick up a "Playful Panda Mother and Baby" stuffed animal set to remember your visit to the pandas. If you would rather not carry it home, you can purchase it online for how much?

The cost would be \$41.99. Click on "Shop Government Auctions," then select "Government Stores--Souvenirs, Books, Gifts." Click on "Gifts and Memorabilia," then "National Zoo Shop," then "Stuffed Animals." Look on the page until you find "Playful Panda Mother and Baby." The URL for this page is <http://store.fonz.org/fonz.storefront/470263140026bd4a2721424d361a0593/Catalog/1001>

4. Young men and women need calcium to strengthen their bones and prevent osteoporosis. Calcium can be found in milk, and in some other foods that may surprise you. True or false: Dark green vegetables like broccoli are a good source of calcium.

The answer is "a"—true. Click on "Health and Nutrition," select "Health by Population Group," then go to "Child and Teen Health, select "Child Nutrition," and click on "Tweens and Teens Need Calcium Now More Than Ever!" The URL for this page is <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/milk/milk.cfm>.

5. When you turn 18, you can register to vote. A) Name two places you can go to get a voter registration form. B) Can you get the form online? C) Do you have to submit it in person?

A) Two places to get a voter registration form are the post office and library. Click on "Voting and Elections," then "Frequently Asked Questions."
B) The answer is "yes"—you can get it online through your state government. Click on "Voting and Elections, then "Registering to Vote and Voting," then select "State Election Offices."
C) The answer is "no"—you can mail it. Click on "Voting and Elections, then "Registering to Vote and Voting," then select "State Election Offices." The URL for this page is <http://www.nased.org/membership.htm>.

6. About 3,000 teens start smoking every day. Which of the following can happen to you if you smoke?

The answer is "d"—all of the above. Click on "Health and Nutrition," select "Health by Population Group," then go to "Child and Teen Health, select "Smoking and Youth," then click on "JAMA Patient Page: Kids Lighting Up." The URL for this page is http://www.medem.com/medlb/article_detailb.cfm?article_ID=ZZZHRTXTIAC&sub_cat=476

7. You've been offered a minimum wage job at the local mall. How much will you earn (before taxes) if you work 15 hours a week for 16 weeks?

The answer is \$1,404. Click on "Jobs and Education," then select "Workplace Issues" to find out that \$5.85 is the minimum wage. The URL for this page is http://www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Education_Training/Workplace.shtml

8. If you need financial aid for college, one option is a work-study program. Who determines the number of hours you can work?

The answer is the U.S. Department of Education, since the amount you earn can't exceed your total federal Work-Study award. Click on "Jobs and Education," then "Education and Training," then "Higher Education." The URL for this page is http://www.ed.gov/prog_info/SFA/StudentGuide/1998-9/fws.html

9. To graduate from high school, you need to complete a certain amount of community service. You like to work in the great outdoors. Name two federal agencies that offer outdoor volunteer opportunities.

Federal agencies that offer outdoor volunteer opportunities include the National Forest Service, National Park Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Environmental Protection Agency. Click on "Jobs and Education," then "Public Service and Volunteer Opportunities," then scroll down to "Volunteer Your Time." The URL for this page is <http://www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/PublicService.shtml>

10. You're having a crowd over for a party. Which of the following are examples of safe food handling?

The answer is "d"—both "b" and "c." Click on "Health," then "Food, Nutrition and Fitness," then "Food Safety." Click on "Consumer Advice," then "Chill/Refrigerate Promptly," then select "Fight Bac!™ Tools: Chill Fact Sheet." The URL for this page is http://www.fightbac.org/chill_facts.cfm.

EVALUATION:

Each answer is worth 10 points.

Fall 2007



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ANSWERS:

For a teacher’s copy of the answers, please contact us at www.pueblo.gsa.gov/emailus.htm. Include your name, school, e-mail address, and “USA.gov for High Schoolers” in your message.

EVALUATION:

Each answer is worth 10 points.

5. When you turn 18, you can register to vote. A) Name two places you can go to get a voter registration form. B) Can you get the form online? C) Do you have to submit it in person?
- A) _____
- B) Yes or No
- C) Yes or No
6. About 3,000 teens start smoking every day. Which of the following can happen to you if you smoke?
- a. Premature wrinkling
 - b. More frequent colds
 - c. Diminished sense of smell and taste
 - d. All of the above
7. You've been offered a minimum wage job at the local mall. How much will you earn (before taxes) if you work 15 hours a week for 16 weeks?
- _____
8. If you need financial aid for college, one option is a work-study program. Who determines the number of hours you can work?
- _____
9. To graduate from high school, you need to complete a certain amount of community service. You like to work in the great outdoors. Name two federal agencies that offer outdoor volunteer opportunities.
- _____
- _____
10. You're having a crowd over for a party. Which of the following are examples of safe food handling?
- a. Serve rare meat.
 - b. Chill perishable food after 2 hours.
 - c. Use separate plates and utensils for raw and cooked meats.
 - d. Both "b" and "c."

For a teacher's copy of the lesson plan and answers, please contact us at www.pueblo.gsa.gov/emailus.htm. Include your name, school, e-mail address, and "USA.gov for High Schoolers" in your message.