

# Student Learning Plan

## Unit 1: Citizenship in Action

### The Department of Defense [U1C2L1]



#### **Why this is important:**

The executive department responsible for the nation's defense forces is the Department of Defense. It was created in 1947, when Congress combined the former Navy and War departments into a National Military Establishment, an executive department headed by a secretary of defense. In this learning plan you will explore the structure and function of the United States Department of Defense.



#### **What you will learn to do:**

*(Competency)*

Explore the purpose of the United States Department of Defense

*Linked Core Ability*

Do your share as a good citizen in your school, community, country, and the world



#### **How you will know when you are succeeding:**

You will show that you have learned the target knowledge and skills:

- by identifying the current chain of command and writing a brief summary of the role and function of the Department of Defense

Your performance will be successful when:

- you identify the individuals who currently hold positions in the Department of Defense Chain of Command
- you summarize the role and function of the Department of Defense
- you provide one or more examples of current news stories involving the Department of Defense



#### **Knowledge and skills you will learn along the way:**

*(Learning Objectives)*

- a. Examine the mission of the Department of Defense (DoD)
- b. Identify the four major responsibilities inherent to DoD's mission
- c. Explain civilian control over the military
- d. Show the relationship between the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the DoD
- e. Define key words: operational commands, specified, strategic, tactical, theater, unified commands



#### **Learning Activities:**

*These learning activities are designed to help you learn the target skills and knowledge for this lesson. Your instructor may assign additional or alternative learning activities.*

## 2 *The Department of Defense [UIC2L1]*

- \_\_\_\_ 1. PREVIEW this learning plan including the competency, learning objectives, performance standards, linked core abilities, learning activities, and assessment activities. PARTICIPATE in an activity to create a pentagon. [Work with the entire class] CREATE a Circle Map (or other graphic organizer) to define what you know about the structure and function of the Department of Defense. [Work in teams] SHARE your Circle Map with the class. RECORD your Circle Map and your responses to reflection questions in your Cadet Notebook.
- \_\_\_\_ 2. [SELF-PACED OPTION] CARRY OUT Learning Activity 1 independently. RECORD your Circle Map(or other graphic organizer) and your responses to reflection questions in your Cadet Notebook.
- \_\_\_\_ 3. LISTEN TO and OBSERVE a briefing about the Department of Defense. LEARN MORE OR REVIEW by reading Section 1: The Department of Defense in Chapter 2 of your text. ANSWER the review questions at the end of the section. [Work with a partner] ADD any additional information to your Circle Map(or other graphic organizer) from the information in your text. [Work in teams] RECORD your answers to the review questions and your Circle Map in your Cadet Notebook.
- \_\_\_\_ 4. [SELF-PACED OPTION] CARRY OUT Learning Activity 3 independently. RECORD your answers to the review questions and your Circle Map(or other graphic organizer) in your Cadet Notebook.
- \_\_\_\_ 5. CREATE a song, skit, rap or poem illustrating the civilian control and military chain of command of the Department of defense. [Work in teams] PERFORM your song, skit, rap, or poem for the rest of the class. RECORD your responses to reflection questions in your Cadet Notebook.
- \_\_\_\_ 6. [SELF-PACED OPTION] CARRY OUT Learning Activity 5 independently. RECORD your song, skit, rap or poem and responses to reflection questions in your Cadet Notebook.
- \_\_\_\_ 7. COMPLETE Exercise 1: Civilian or Military Matrix. [Work with a partner or independently] CHECK your work using the answer key. OBTAIN the Department of Defense Assessment Task from your instructor. RECORD your responses to reflection questions in your Cadet Notebook.
- \_\_\_\_ 8. [SELF-PACED OPTION] CARRY OUT Learning Activity 7 independently. RECORD your responses to reflection questions in your Cadet Notebook.



### **Assessment Activities:**

*These assessment activities will enable you to show that you have learned the target skills and knowledge for this lesson. Your instructor may assign additional or alternative assessment activities.*

- \_\_\_\_ 1. COMPLETE the Department of Defense Assessment Task. SELF-ASSESS your work using the Scoring Guide. SUBMIT your work to your instructor for feedback and a grade.
- \_\_\_\_ 2. [SELF-PACED OPTION] Same as above.