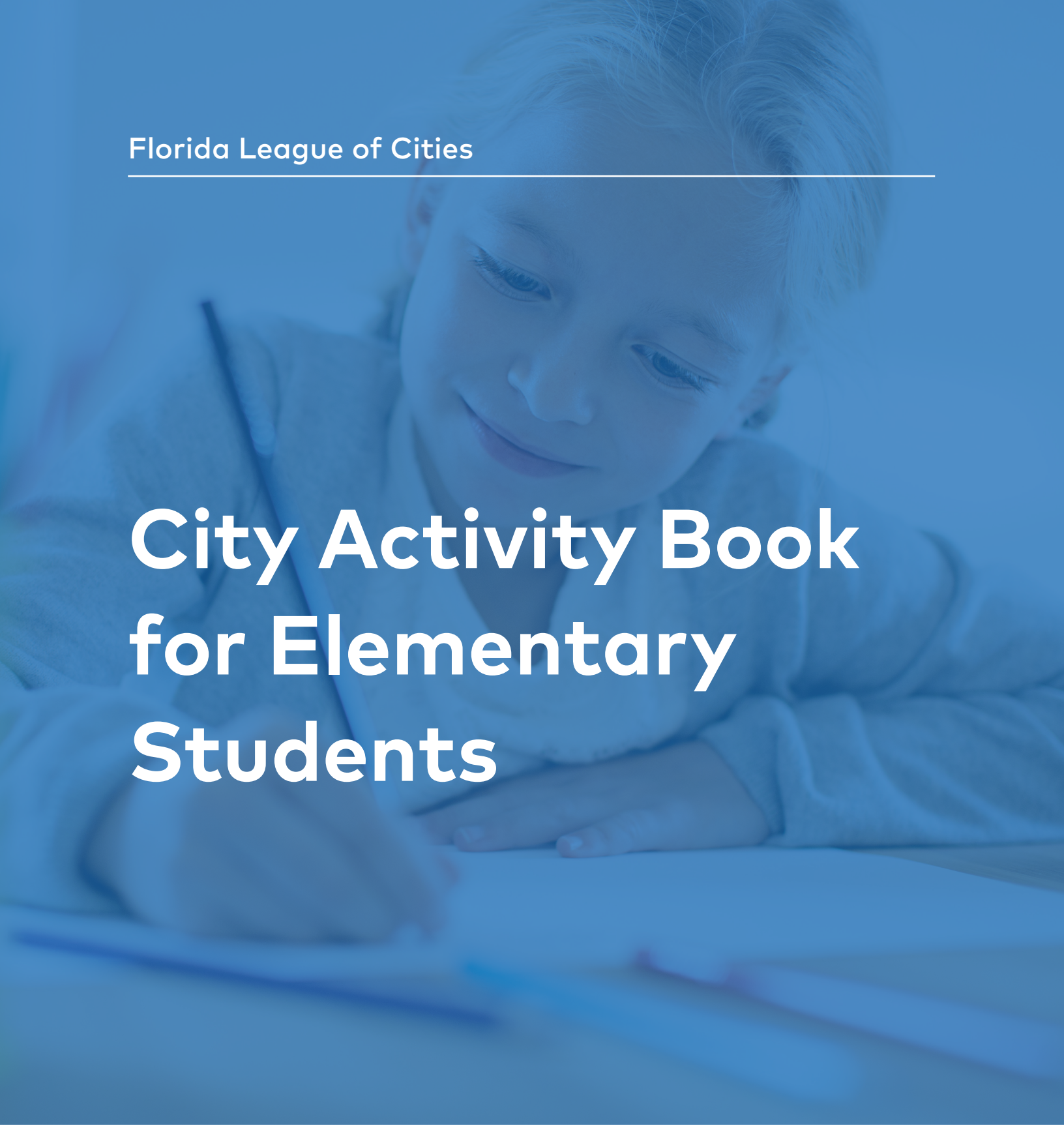


Florida League of Cities

City Activity Book for Elementary Students

This document is published by the Florida League of Cities in support of the 2019-20 presidential initiative Readers2Leaders

READERS 2 LEADERS

City Activity Book for Elementary Students

OVERVIEW

The city activity book is an activity book for elementary students that includes municipal-related activities. Prior to completing the activity book, students will need an overview of municipal government. A PowerPoint presentation has been created to coincide with the book.

YOUR ROLE

Your role in this exercise is to work closely with your local teacher(s) to provide students with a lesson on city government. Then, your role will be to provide students with the activity book and help students complete it.

RESOURCES/MATERIALS

- PowerPoint with municipal lesson.
- Printed copies of the activity book.

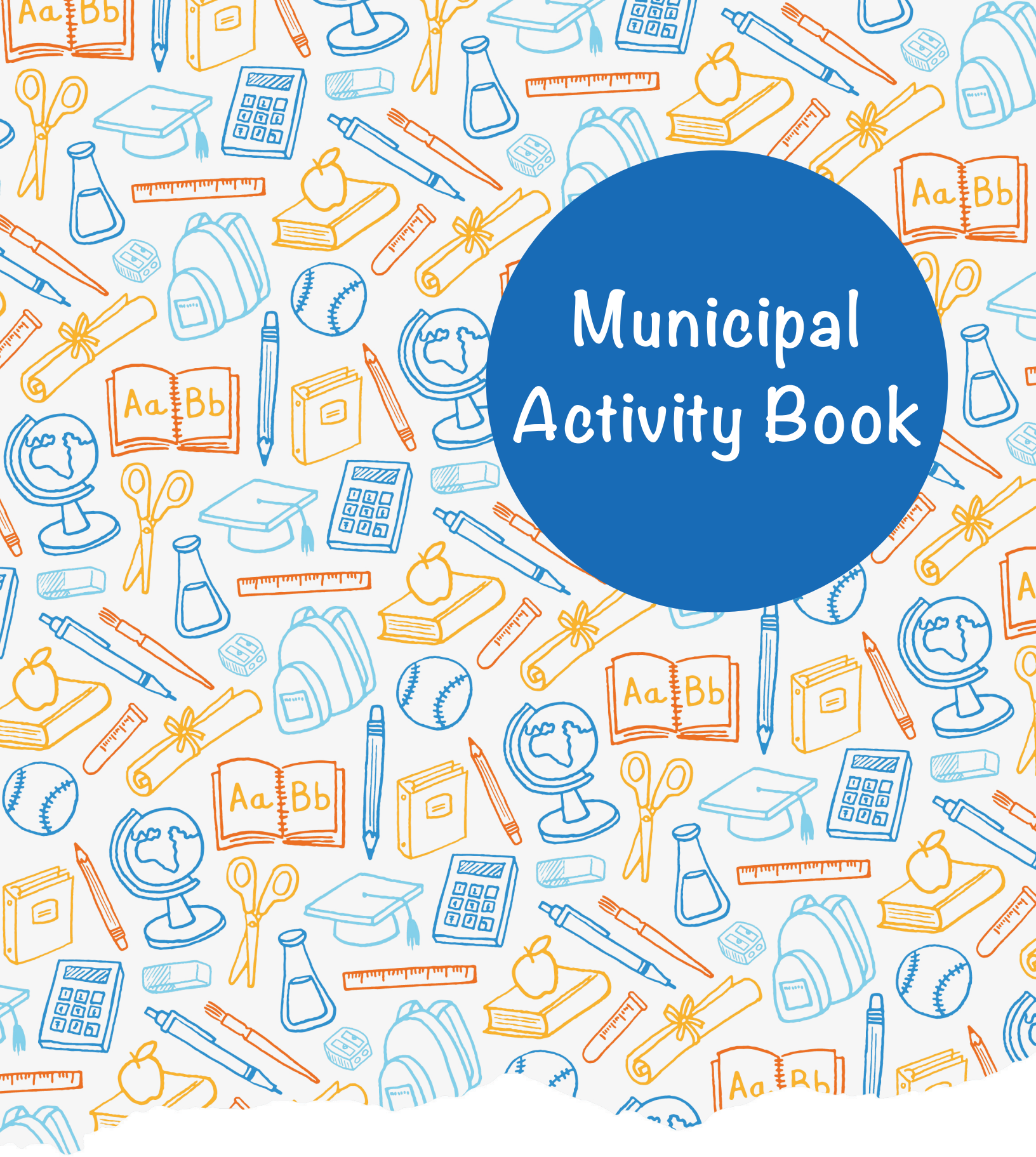
PREPARATION

Before the meeting, work with your local teacher(s) to:

- Provide students with an overview of city government. See the PowerPoint for a sample lesson.
- Account for the number of students in attendance and their prior knowledge of local government.

Print copies of the activity book to bring into the classroom:

- An answer key is located at the end of this document. It does not need to be included in the activity book. Provide a copy to the teacher(s).



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READERS 2 LEADERS

MY CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE

Fill in the information below about your home.

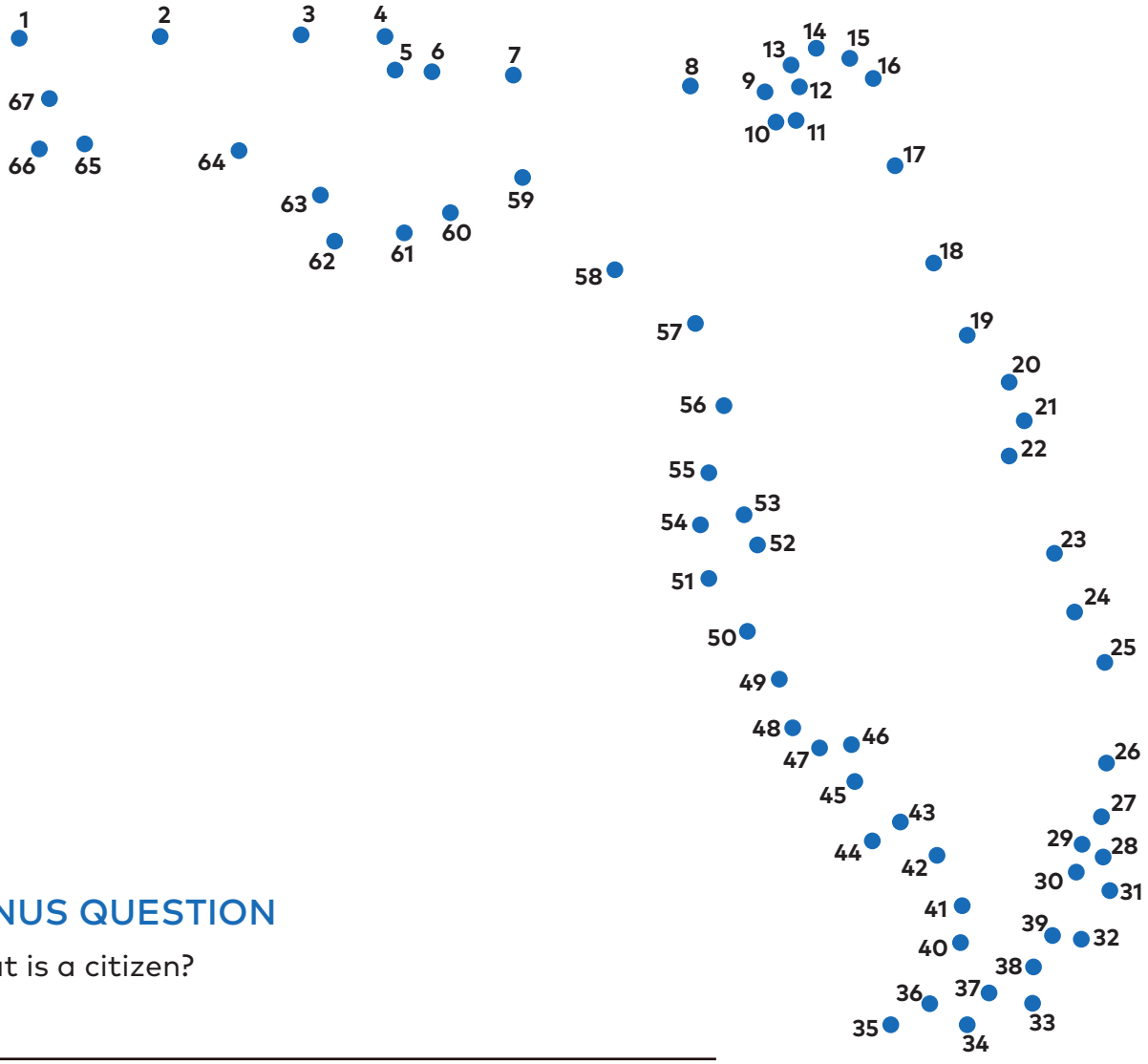
I live in the _____ (city, town or village) of _____.

My city is in the county of _____. The population of my city is _____.

We have a _____ form of government.

I live in the unincorporated part of _____ County. My county's population is _____.

Connect the dots to complete the image. Then, draw a heart where your city is located.



BONUS QUESTION

What is a citizen?

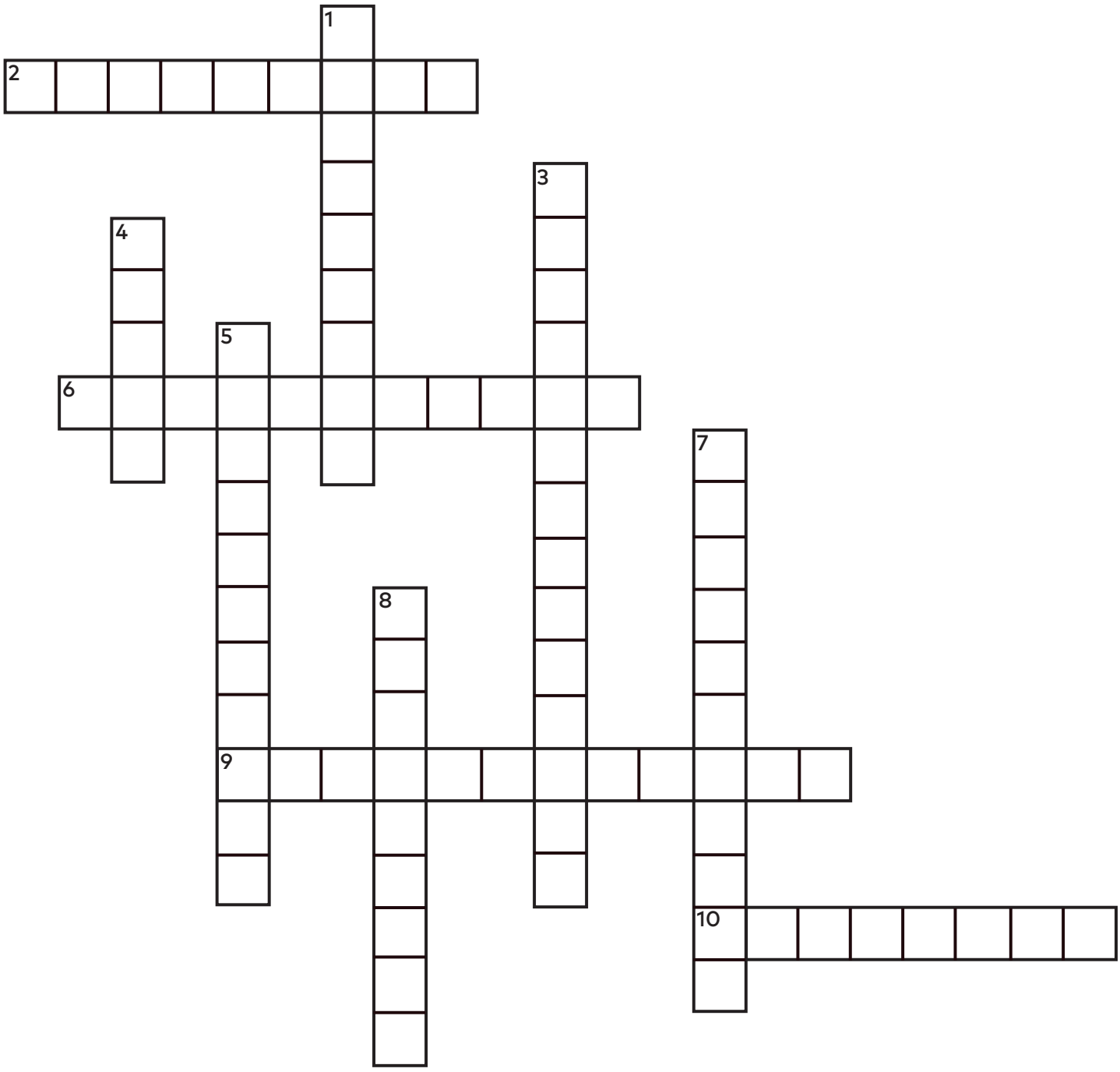
_____

_____

_____

CITY JOBS

Complete the crossword puzzle to determine the jobs commonly found in cities. Remember, no two cities are alike, and each city may have different jobs.



DOWN

1. head of the fire department
3. collects waste and recyclable materials
4. an elected official who takes a leadership role for the council
5. the governing body of the city
7. administers city business such as hiring
8. record keeper for the city

ACROSS

2. oversees the city library
6. head of the police department
9. represents the city in legal matters
10. designs roads, bridges and other infrastructure

CITY SERVICES

Read this story very carefully to see how many city services you can find. Underline or highlight the city services. Remember, because no two cities are alike, each city offers different services. The citizens decide what services they want!

This was the big game of the season – Jefferson High School against Washington High School in nearby Greendale City. Washington High marching band members stashed their instruments on the school buses and climbed aboard. At 5:00 p.m., the two buses pulled away from the city recreation parking lot.

Movement through city streets was slowed by rush hour traffic. Main Street was closed because public works crews were fixing a broken water line. A police officer directed traffic. At one intersection, the buses stopped as fire engines raced by. The buses traveled slowly, past the waterworks and down the hill to the edge of the city limits. Finally, on the interstate, they began to make good time. Students quietly began to eat their sandwiches. It was getting dark outside as they left the city.

The buses left the interstate and drove along County Line Road past the jail and a large public works garage. The highway soon approached the Jefferson airport where the runways were ablaze with lights and planes. Students pressed their noses against the windows to look. On the other side of the highway, flashing blue lights revealed the sheriff's car parked behind a speeder who had been pulled over.

When they got off the buses at Jefferson High, most band members quickly headed for the field house to have a drink of water and use the restroom before going to the stands. A city bus loaded with fans arrived just at kickoff.

School rivalry showed on the field. It was a tough, defensive game. At the end of the first quarter, a pileup left a Washington High quarterback stretched out on the field, moaning. The crowd quieted as he was lifted by emergency medical technicians to an ambulance. By the end of halftime, word came from the City of Greendale General Hospital that his injury was only a bad sprain; he would be all right. A cheer went up, and the Washington High team raced onto the field, geared to win.

It was Washington High's night. They won 13-3, their first victory against Jefferson in four years. A steady rain had started, and the bleachers emptied quickly. Police officers guided traffic smoothly out of the parking area around the drainage ditches. Ground crews were already picking up discarded cups and papers to fill dumpsters with trash. As the buses pulled away, the field lights were dimmed and then turned off. Only streetlights lit their way through the dark rainy night.

The buses vibrated with victory songs. Soon, however, weariness caught up with the musicians, and two quiet buses traveled down the interstate.

TOWN HALL TRIVIA

Can you answer all the questions below?

1. There are _____ cities, towns and villages in Florida.

2. _____ is the legal name in Florida for a city, town or village.

3. What is the difference between a city, town or village in Florida?

   _____

4. What is the governing body of a municipality? _____

5. What is the difference between a city council and a city commission in Florida?

   _____

6. A _____ is like a constitution in that it is written and adopted by the citizens of a municipality.

7. Name two city staff positions in your city.

   _____

   _____

8. Name two city departments in your city.

   _____

   _____

9. An _____ is a law enacted by a city or county affecting local affairs such as traffic, noise and animal control.

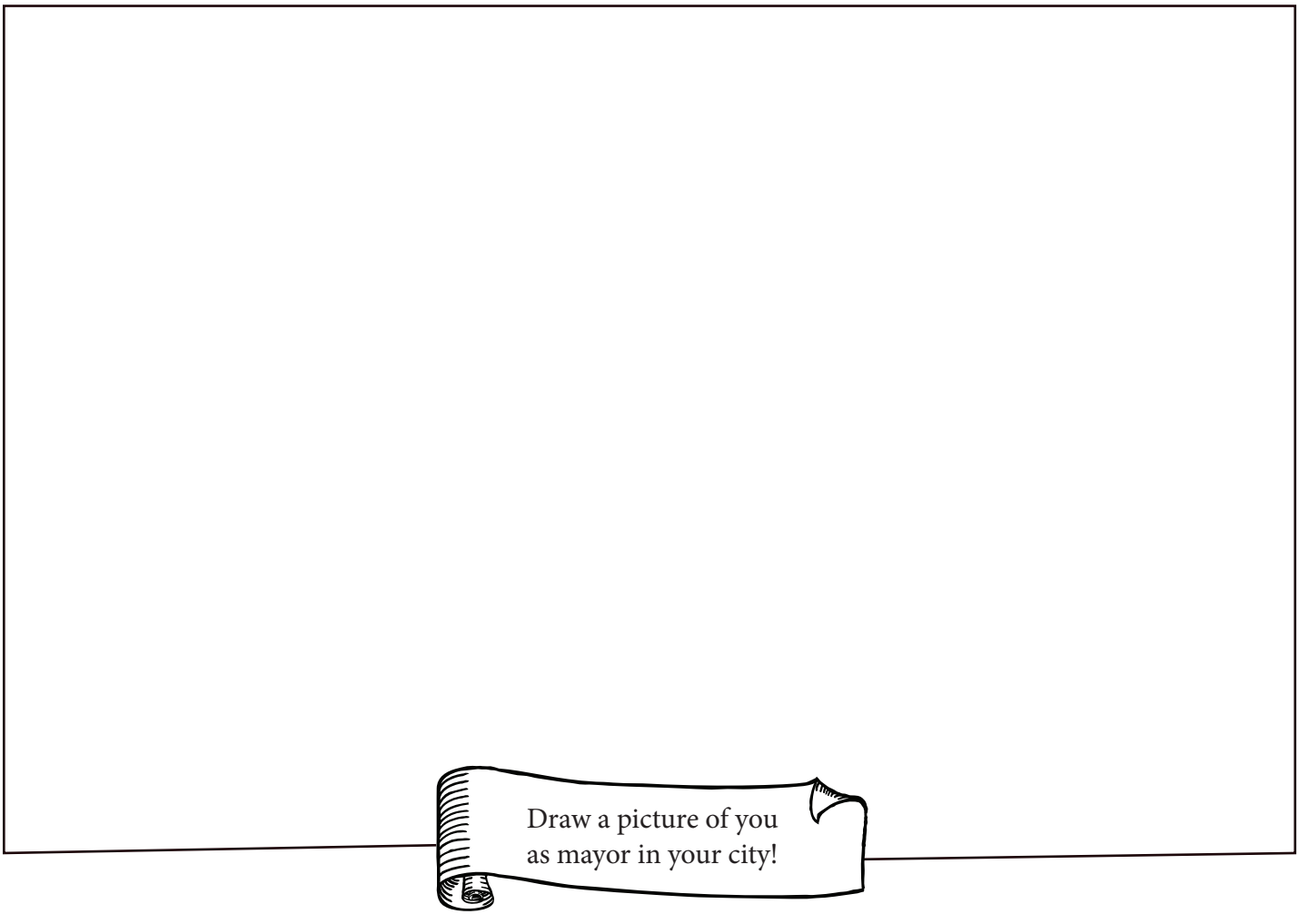
10. Can you name any of the members of your city council/city commission?

    _____

    _____

IF I WERE MAYOR ...

If you were Mayor for a day, what would you do?



Answer Key

BONUS QUESTION

A citizen is a resident of a city, state or nation; a consumer of public services.

CITY JOBS ACTIVITY

1. fire chief
2. librarian
3. waste collector
4. mayor
5. city council
6. police chief
7. city manager
8. city clerk
9. city attorney
10. engineer

CITY SERVICES ACTIVITY

Paragraph 1: city recreation parking lot
Paragraph 2: city streets, public works crews, broken water line, police officer, fire engines, waterworks
Paragraph 3: public works garage, airport
Paragraph 4: water, restroom, city bus
Paragraph 5: emergency medical technicians, City of Greendale General Hospital
Paragraph 6: police officers, drainage ditches, dumpsters with trash, streetlights
None in Paragraph 7

TOWN HALL TRIVIA

1. 412
2. Municipality
3. In Florida, there is no difference.
4. The council or commission.
5. In Florida, there is no difference.
6. Charter
7. Multiple answers may be appropriate such as city clerk, city manager, etc.
8. Multiple answers may be appropriate such as parks, recreation, etc.
9. Ordinance
10. [Insert names of your council members/commissioners.]