

Community Service Opportunities List

The following opportunities list is meant to give you a starting point, somewhere to begin thinking about what you would like to do. These are ideas you may want to use, or you may want to come up with a project all your own. Some of the best ways to help your community can be found through your own observation. You are strongly encouraged to be creative in finding your own way to volunteer your time!

On Site Opportunities

- Watershed (participation beyond the regular class time)
- Propose a drive or fundraiser in your classroom to benefit the needy. Discuss and implement your idea with your teacher and class.

Some ideas: Clothing Drive
Food Drive
Blanket Drive
Book Drive

For example: Organize a book drive through your classroom by asking each person attending your next class to bring in a used children's book in good condition, then donate the books to a childcare center or other organization in need.

- School or Home Recycle Program: Initiate and maintain (at home this would be in addition to any regular recycling chores you may already have).
- Grounds-keeping and School Beautification:
 - Weeding
 - Watering
 - Garbage clean up
 - Bulletin Boards
 - Lunchroom Cleanup
- Peer Tutoring (at lunch or recess)
- School Events such as Pizza Bingo, Science Fair, Pancake Breakfast (set-up, ticket sales, clean-up)
- Community Awareness and Education

Educate yourself about a community issue then share your knowledge with your class or whole school using one of the following ideas. Sample issues could

include Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Issues or Drug and Alcohol Awareness.

Articles (Parent Organizer Newsletter)

Posters (displayed at school with teacher approval)

Presentation

Write your Representative

(Write your local representative about an issue of importance or concern that you have. Share your ideas with them. Interview an adult or another student about their views on your topic.)

- Acknowledge people who make a difference.

Write a letter or send an e-mail to someone you see making a difference in your community telling them why you think what they are doing is important.

- Organize a portion of admission proceeds at a school event to be donated to charity.

Example: Arrange with the adult in charge an admission charge of one can of food per person for a school event such as the school play.

Offsite Opportunities

(Only with parent permission and appropriate adult supervision.)

- Volunteer at a nursing home or home for the disabled:

Schedule a performance for the school band

Interview a senior citizen (What was their community like when they were your age? How is the world different/same today?)

Pen Pal (Write or e-mail a senior on a regular basis)

Take dictation, address and mail a letter a senior wishes to send.

Read to or tape yourself reading for a senior.

- Volunteer at your local Humane Society
- Serve at a local Homeless Shelter/Soup Kitchen
- Help a senior or disabled person by doing yard work such as raking leaves, weeding or mowing their lawn, shopping for groceries or running errands.

- Pass out food at your local food bank
- Volunteer for your local parks and recreation department by helping with clean up of parks and/or athletic fields
- Enter a “Walk” or “Run” to benefit the cause of your choice
- Volunteer for community service related activities at your place of worship
- Volunteer at your public or school library
- Sort through your clothing and toys to find items in good condition which you can donate to the needy organization of your choice.
- Organize an Art Exhibit

Example: Obtain Permission to borrow artwork from the Wilder Art Star Program or other source. Arrange to transport, set up and display the artwork at a Senior Center, Community Center or Nursing Home for a specified amount of time, then return the art to the class or artist(s).

- Contact your YMCA for a volunteer opportunity:
Contact Person, Northshore YMCA ; Kay Dickeson-Boldz

Previous volunteer opportunities at the YMCA have included:

Union Gospel Mission
Capitol Hill Teed Feed
King County Plant Salvaging
Assorted Drives

- Contact the Boys and Girls Club to volunteer

Volunteer projects might include working with younger kids helping with homework, reading or playing games.

- Search online for Volunteer Positions and Ideas

Websites to try:

www.unitedway.org

www.makeawish.org

www.servenet.org

<http://kidshealth.org/teen/workplay/volunteering.html>

<http://indepsec.org/give5/g5volunteer.html>

<http://bygpub.com/books/tg2rw/volunteer.html>

http://youthserve.net/nysd_project_ideas.html