

Community Service

COMMUNITY SERVICE means doing something helpful for one's community or neighborhood.

LESSON 1

Read the definition of **COMMUNITY SERVICE**. Write the following words from the definition on the board: Community, Service, Voluntary, and Helpfulness. Discuss the meaning of each word. Ask students to brainstorm a list of people in the community that provide a community service, like a policeman or fireman. Record student responses on the board. Discuss why these people provide service to the community and why they are different from any other person.

School/Home Link Ask students to share with a family member who their favorite volunteer is and why.

LESSON 2

Review the definition of **COMMUNITY SERVICE**. Tell students to think of people they know who are volunteers. Brainstorm with students the types of activities that require volunteer services. Ask the class to identify one volunteer that they know. If they identify more than one, take a vote to select the one they feel best serves their community. As time allows, lead the class in writing a class letter to the volunteer selected to thank him or her for the service provided. Tell students to explain how they feel about the importance of being a volunteer and providing a community service. Deliver the letter to the person.

School/Home Link Ask students to talk to a family member about the thank you letter the class wrote and explain why they chose to thank that person.

LESSON 3

Review the definition of **COMMUNITY SERVICE**. Brainstorm ways the class could perform a community service. List the responses on the board. Have students vote on one community service they could do as a class. An example could include things such as collecting can goods for a local food bank or adopting an area on the playground to keep free of litter. Once the activity is selected, consider getting the class to perform the community service.

School/Home Link Ask students to talk to a family member about different ways to perform a community service.

LESSON 4

Review the definition of **COMMUNITY SERVICE**. Tell students they will play a game of "Guess Who?" Tell them you are thinking about a person who provides community service and shows good character. Instruct students to ask questions to try and figure out the person of whom you are thinking. Examples could include: Where does he or she live? What color hair does the person have? Is the person a man or a woman? When is the community service performed? Why is it done? Give clues to prompt students' questions if necessary. Once the person is identified, discuss why he or she would be considered to be a good community service provider. As an extended activity, have students draw a picture of the person as time allows.

School/Home Link Ask students to talk to a family member about a person they talked about who does service for the community.

LESSON 5

Review the definition of **COMMUNITY SERVICE**. Explain to students that showing kindness to the elderly is a simple and easy way to provide a service to the community. Discuss how lonely elderly are and how special they would feel if they knew someone was thinking of them. Have students work in pairs to decorate a "Thinking of You" card to send to the nearest nursing home or hospital. Guide students in a discussion about how a simple task such as making a card can brighten someone's day and provide a worthwhile service.

School/Home Link Tell students to discuss the activity that was done today in class and decide if there is a simple activity to do as a family.