



LEADER LINKS

About the LEADER LINKS...

The Leader Link is a weekly message delivered via email to support character development, good citizenship and social responsibility. The Leader Links address the same character traits that our students focus on throughout the week. Each Leader Link provides a simple definition, an inspiring quotation, a thought provoking question and an action prompt to encourage you, your friends, associates or group to consciously incorporate each quality into daily living.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Definition:

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

Leader's Message:

Community service is one of the best uses of a person's time, talent, and ability. Perhaps the first and biggest benefit people get from volunteering is the satisfaction of incorporating service into their lives and making a difference in their community and country. The intangible benefits alone—such as pride, satisfaction and accomplishment—are worthwhile reasons to serve.

Food for thought:

Consider this quote by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, * *"With every deed you are sowing a seed, though the harvest you may not see."* Have you ever thought about your good deeds as seeds? Little things you do to help one another can grow, even if you never get to see the final result.

Action Prompt:

Invest in your community. You and many others will reap the rewards. Many times, people want to do something to help their community, but they don't know where to begin. If you take the time to look for opportunities for community service, you will find that they are everywhere, even in your own front yard. The following are ways to contribute.

1. Share a plate of cookies with a neighbor.
2. Collect canned food for a local food pantry.
3. Pick up litter in your neighborhood or park.
4. Organize a neighborhood clothing drive.
5. Recycle newspapers or plastics.
6. Plant a tree to beautify a neighborhood.
7. Volunteer your time at a local charitable organization.
8. Cook a dinner for an elderly neighbor who is alone.

Every one has a gift to give. It may be in the form of time, talent or sharing resources. It may be large or small, but regardless of the magnitude, it will make a difference.

**Ella Wheeler Wilcox (1850 -1919) was an American author and poet.*