Kids Care Club

Form a community service club with your friends! Learn about each other and what it means to be a volunteer.

Age Appropriateness:

- 9 and up

Key Topics:

- Volunteering
- Civic Engagement

Skills:

- Teamwork
- Community Organizing

Materials:

- Internet
- Club specific materials

Time Considerations:

- 1 hour per meeting (meetings can be weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, depending on group)

Resources:

http://www.kidscare.org/

http://www.helpguide.org/life/volunteer_opportunities_benefits_volunteering.htm

http://www.generationon.org/

OBJECTIVES

- To introduce youth to community service activities.
- To learn more about important local, national, and global social issues.

Discussion

Ask youth the following questions: What does it mean to volunteer? Have you ever been a volunteer before? What are some examples of volunteer organizations that you know?

Research people and organizations that have made a difference by volunteering . How did they make a difference at either a local, national, or global level? Consider interviewing people in your neighborhood about volunteering they have done on their own and through their workplace.

Action

- Have kids check out the Resources List on the left get ideas for their club. You may also use other resources not listed.

- Recruit members and set up a regular meeting time for the Kids Care Club. Register as a club on the website to get regular updates about community service activities.

- Research community service activities and decide which ones are most important to the group. Prepare for the activity by learning more about the sponsoring organization and those being served.

- Do the community service activity as a club.

Reflection

1. Discuss what was learned by each activity. What did you learn about the organization, the target population, each other, and yourself?

2. During the playground Build Day, there will be hundreds of volunteers from the community. Research information to figure out how much it would cost if all of the volunteers were paid workers. How are these volunteers changing the community?