



Helpful Holidays

A helping hand is often the greatest gift you can give, especially when the snow falls and the temperature drops. Clearing out a neighbor's driveway, raking leaves, or cleaning up the sidewalk is a great way to show you care. You could help an elderly neighbor or even support a community organization by cleaning up their outdoor area.

Here's Your Project:

Shovel snow or rake leaves for a neighbor or community organization.

Supply List:

- Shovel or rake
- Optional: gloves to protect your hands

How To Do It!

1. Reach out to a neighbor or community organization. Ask if they'd like help shoveling snow or cleaning up their yard.
2. Ask them for instructions on what they'd like you to do. If you are shoveling snow, for example, find out where to shovel and where to put the snow.
3. Roll up your sleeves and help out!

Preflection:

Before your volunteer project, ask these questions to be clear about what the goals and expectations are. If you are part of a group, talk about why you are doing a service project. Here are questions to guide your thinking or discussion:

1. Who are we helping?
2. Why are we helping them?
3. How are we helping them?
4. What are we most excited about?
5. What might be tough or challenging about our project?
6. What are everyone's jobs during the project? What do we each have to do?



Interesting Fact:
Less than 5% of older persons above 65 years of age live in nursing homes



Reflection:

After your volunteer project, it is important to reflect on the experience. Ask these questions or, if you are part of a group, do the Whip Around reflection activity:

Reflection Questions

1. How did our project help people?
2. What worked well about our project?
3. What can we do better next time?
4. What is our next service project?

Whip Around Ball Toss:

Have your group sit or stand in a circle facing each other. One person will have a ball to toss or roll to someone else in the circle. Each person will have a chance to complete a statement about the project. The person with the ball makes a statement, and then says the name of the person they are tossing the ball to. The next person completes the statement in his or her own way, and so on. When the ball has gone around once, start a new round with a new statement. Try these:

"This project made me happy because _____."

"I didn't know I was good at _____."

"Next time we volunteer, I'd like to help _____."

Pledge this project for the **Holiday Gift Campaign** and **Hasbro** will donate a toy through **Toys for Tots** on behalf of each person helping with your project! (Up to 100,000 toys!)

PLEDGE

Suggested Reading:

The Goat Lady by Jane Bregoli

All the houses in town are well-kept and freshly painted except the "Goat Lady's" house. Her home is falling apart and her yard is full of farm animals including goats. Read how the community comes to