



Community Service Project Assignment

Completed Project Due Date:

We have learned about the civic duties and responsibilities of citizens. While civic duties include things that citizens must do, civic responsibilities are voluntary obligations. As we have discussed in class, one of the most important aspects of living in a democracy is to contribute to the common good. Now is the time to put these lessons into practice. For this assignment, you will become an active citizen, and a helpful citizen making a difference... because you can!

What is community service?

When someone performs an action which *benefits* his or her community, it is known as community service and it is a vital part of many small communities. Getting involved in your community makes it healthier and livelier, and numerous organizations around the world support community service activities.

Things which could be considered community service include tutoring children, helping elderly neighbors, building homes in low income areas with Habitat for Humanity, assisting the elderly, socializing animals at animal shelters, performing habitat restoration, contributing to the operations of volunteer fire departments and emergency services, or helping with civic beautification. In all cases, community service work is performed by volunteers who are not paid for their time. In some instances, the work would not be accomplished without the work of such volunteers, and many small organizations rely on people with community spirit to survive.

The objective of Community Service is to be helpful in our community for those in need!

Community Service is NOT:

Helping out at a parent's business that is for profit, cleaning your room, cleaning privately owned properties (Shawnee Pool) or doing your chores.

Below are the project requirements. Read them with your parent or guardian.

Assignment Requirements and Due Dates

- **10 hours**-You must spend 10 hours over the next five-week period involved in your community service project. These hours may be spent on one activity for the entire 10 hours or you may participate in a variety of activities that add up to 10 hours.
- **Memory Box**-You will create a memory box. A shoebox works the best for this. Your memory box must be decorated in a way that reflects your experience in a meaningful way. Your quotes, artifacts, log, journal and artifacts will be included in this box.

Your memory box is due on.

- **Log**-You must keep a log of your community service. Have the log initialed by a supervising adult.
- **Writing Component**-You must answer the five questions listed below in detail. The answers to the questions are to be typed, double spaced and in 12 point font. Write your answers to the below questions in paragraph form incorporating the question within you answer. **DON'T JUST WRITE THE QUESTION AND THEN AN ANSWER!!!**
 1. Summary of your community service activities and an explanation for why your activity(ies) were community service.
 2. How has your service had a positive impact on our community?
 3. What impact have you had on the people you helped during your community service?
 4. How are you different after participating in this activity?
 5. Will you continue community service in the future? Why or why not?
- **Interview**-Interview a community member who is involved in community service on a regular basis. The objective of this interview is to learn why that person has made the decision to dedicate his/her time to community service. Learn what the person does and how it makes him/her feel.
(5 Questions)
- **Quotes**-As you do your community service, listen for quotes/conversations you would like to remember. Write these down in a creative way and include them on or in your memory box.
(5 Quotes)
- **Artifacts**-As you do your community service, keep artifacts or mementos that will fit into your memory box. These artifacts will serve the purpose of teaching others about your experiences.
(5 Artifacts)
- **Oral Presentation**-You will give a well rehearsed and well organized oral presentation to your civics class about your community service. The presentation must include the following:
 1. Explain what you did and why it is community service.
 2. Explain who you interviewed and one thing about community service that you learned from the interview.
 3. Share two quotes and two artifacts and explain the significance of these items to the class.
 4. Explain how you impacted our community.
 5. Explain how you are different as a result of your community service.
 6. Discuss whether or not you will continue community service.

On the next page you will find additional opportunities for community service. You are not limited to working with only these organizations. You may choose to work with a number of these organizations to add up to ten hours or you may choose to work the entire ten hours with a single organization.



Ideas and Organizations for Community Service

Students may choose to work with a number of these organizations to add up to ten (10) hours or they may choose to work the entire ten (10) hours with a single organization or activity

Following is a list of possible ideas for community service:

- Clean up Strouble's Creek. There is a lot of trash that needs to be picked for the health of the stream.
- Pick up trash at a local park or in your neighborhood.
- Help a younger student with homework or a school project.
- Help a teacher after school.
- Start a battery recycling program. The Blacksburg YMCA will safely dispose of used batteries that you collect.
- Help your church or neighbor with a yard project.

Following is a list of local organizations that are interested in working with students.

- **YMCA Thrift Shop (Contact Brian Anderson or Sharon Thompson 552-2633)**
You can help to sort books and clothes, hang clothes and check that donated appliances work.
- **Project Linus: (Penny Sweet 639-6161 or 230-6209)**
You will make blankets for area children and families in need. Visit nrvprojectlinus.org to learn more about this wonderful program. Ms. Sweet is willing to come to BMS to work with those interested in this project.
Each blanket will cost you approximately \$6 in materials to make.
- **Humane Society Shelter (382-1166)**
You can walk dogs and play with cats. You do not need to call the shelter to coordinate hours. Call five days in advance for a group of five. You can do this activity alone or with a group of up to five.
An adult must accompany you.
- **New River Community Shelter (Carol Johnson 382-6188)**
You can organize a drive to collect household goods and school supplies for our New River Valley homeless families.
- **Warm Hearth Activities (Rebecca Watson 552-9176)**
Work with residents to create a garden on the grounds of Warm Hearth.
or
Contact Warm Hearth if you are interested in working with a resident of Warm Heath to create a memoir of their life. You will meet with a resident to learn about his/her life. Using this information, you will create a memoir for the resident and his/her family.
- **Montgomery County Food Pantry (Rhoda Sexton 381-1561)**
Help to check expiration dates and shelving food products.
Or
Organize a food drive in your neighborhood. Collect canned goods, kid friendly food and breakfast goods to help out area families during the summer.
- **Valley Interfaith Childcare Center 951-8101**
Help young children with homework and activities.
- **Lyric Theatre**
Help clean up the theatre.



COMMUNITY SERVICE RUBRIC

Name _____ Class Period ____ Date _____

Required Items	Points Possible	Points Earned
Decorated Box	10	
Writing Component	65	
Interview (5 Questions)	20	
Quotes/Conversations (5 Quotes)	10	
Artifacts/Pictures (5 Artifacts)	10	
Well Rehearsed Presentation	75	
Log/10 Hours	10	
TOTAL	200	

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever has.

- Margaret Mead

