

Service Project Ideas/Club Program Ideas and Fundraising Ideas

Project Tree



A great way to keep track of all the fun service projects the club has completed is to make a project tree. The items needed include: poster board, green and brown construction paper, glue, and a black marker. Draw a tree trunk on the brown construction paper and cut out the trunk. Place it on a poster board. Draw a large leaf on the green construction paper as a guide, and then cut out enough leaves to cover the treetop. If the club has completed a service project, write the name of the project on the leaf and then glue the leaf on the poster board at top of the tree trunk. The club will be able to track all the fun projects completed during the year by adding leaves to the tree.



Chalk Box – Service Project

Make chalk boxes for the elementary school kindergarten class or for the children in the Head Start program. The box of chalk is made with an old cigar box or shoebox. Paint the outside of the box with bright colors and the lid of the box with chalkboard paint. The inside of the box can be painted or left in its original condition. Place several pieces of colored chalk and a sponge in the box. Place the lid on the box. The kids now have a handy little chalkboard with supplies enclosed. They can use it to practice writing the alphabet and numbers.

Welcome to Our School Basket – Service Project



Make a special welcome basket for students relocating to the elementary school. Include school supplies, information about the school, and a special invitation to join the K-Kids club. Another great gift idea is to create a cloth-covered notebook. Cover a three-ring binder with fun colors of scrap cloth using fabric glue as an adhesive.

Get-Well Books – Service Project

Construct a book with an upbeat message for patients at the local children’s hospital. The book could be made of construction paper. Plot out a story, color the pictures, hole punch the pages and tie the pages, together with yarn. Deliver the books to the children’s hospital.

Lullaby CDs – Service Project / Fund-raising Project



This project will give the school’s music teacher an opportunity to become involved with K-Kids. Approach your school’s music teacher about using the school choir to record public-domain lullabies on recording. The music teacher and club members choose the lullabies. The choir will need to work on the arrangements for a week or two. A time is scheduled to record the choir singing. The school’s audiovisual department duplicates the digital recording. If the elementary school does not have audiovisual capability, look to the middle school or high school for assistance. The next step involves creating a decorative cover for the CDs. Brightly colored markers are used to decorate the covers and

list the songs. The lullaby CD can be donated to hospitals or child-care centers. The CDs also can be sold for a small profit as a fund-raiser. Profits from this project could go toward items needed in the school's music department.

Audiocassette or CD Story Books – Service Project/ Fund-raising Project

This project promotes creativity. Club members work together to choose a theme and develop a story or several stories. Topics might include overcoming fear, accomplishing goals, or building friendships. Club members develop a story and write a script. Different parts are assigned to different members of the club. A time is scheduled to conduct a practice reading, and another time is scheduled to record the reading on audiocassette or on a digital recorder. The club utilizes the school's audiovisual department to make duplicates of the cassette or digital recording. If the elementary school does not have an audiovisual department, look to the middle school or high school for assistance with this portion of the project. This is a good way to include a Builders Club or a Key Club in a K-Kids project. Club members then develop a cover for the tapes or CD with colorful markers. The storybook tapes/CD are distributed to children's hospitals, child-care providers, or sold as a fund-raiser. Perhaps the school library needs materials. The funds raised could assist with this endeavor.

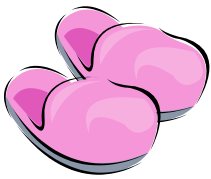
School Memory Book or Bulletin Board – Service Project

Build school pride by making a school memory book or bulletin board. The club provides disposable cameras to certain faculty and K-Kids members. Photographs are taken at various events. Individuals should write the name of the event directly on the camera. Ask club members to collect film-developing coupons from the weekly newspaper. Coupons and the disposable cameras are taken to a store for developing. Club members paste the photos on construction paper, write special comments beside the photographs, hole punch the pages, and tie them together with yarn. The memory book is displayed at the front of the school where all students can view the book. If it is better to view the pages on a bulletin board, simply post a few pages a day, and at the completion of the posting, bind the pages together and keep for future viewing.

Felt Storytelling Boards – Service Project

This project can be completed using old shoeboxes, felt pieces, and glue. First, cover the entire shoebox with felt. Then cut other felt pieces into different shapes. Shapes of people and animals can be created, as well as stars, clouds, a sun, and a moon. The cut pieces are placed inside the box. Since felt holds in place against felt, when the shapes are placed on the outside of the box, they form different scenes. These felt boxes can be given to a kindergarten class, a children's hospital, or child-care center.

Slipper Socks for Nursing Home Patients – Service Project



For this project, one needs socks and nontoxic, three-dimensional fabric paints. Organize a sock drive at your school, requesting that students donate new socks. Ask for adult sizes. Decorate the bottom of the socks with fabric paint. When the paint dries, it creates no-slip grips on the bottom of the sock. This is an easy project, and nursing home residents will love their new slipper socks!

Flash Cards / Matching Game Cards – Service Project

Create flash cards for the school's kindergarten class. Use cardboard and markers to create the cards. Check with the kindergarten teacher to see what type of flash cards the class needs. Flash cards also can be given to child-care providers. The same technique can be used to create a matching card game. Cut enough cards to create 52 cards. Draw two identical pictures until you have drawn pictures on all the cards. Color the opposite side with a fun pattern. You have created a set of matching cards. You may want to write out a simple set of directions to go with the cards, explaining how to play the game.

Create Colorful Sweatshirts and T-shirts – Service Project

Conduct a clothing drive and ask specifically for sweatshirts and T-shirts that do not have printing on them. Wash the clothing. Use colorful fabric paints to decorate the items. Now donate the newly decorated items to a shelter.

More Service Project Ideas

- Assist in reseeding the school's lawn, help plant flowers around the walkways, and help with the flower beds.
- Clean and wash school vehicles.
- Print and distribute "Emergency Phone Number" stickers to all homes in the community.
- Organize a canned food drive. Students donate canned goods, which are distributed to the needy.
- Ask students to donate old books, records, cassette tapes, videotapes, and CDs. Donate the collected items to a shelter.
- Offer baby-sitting services during a special school program. Parents will be able to watch their older children perform in the choir or play while the younger kids enjoy playtime in the school's baby-sitting room made possible by the K-Kids club!



Program Ideas

Make arrangements to host a special educational lunch series. A special guest would be scheduled to talk to the students during the lunch hour. Each week could focus on a different theme. Week #1: Fire Prevention Awareness; Week #2: First Aid; Week #3: Settling Conflict; etc.

Conduct a fund-raiser to sponsor an educational program for the teachers at the school. Maybe the teachers at the elementary school need CPR training and the K-Kids could assist with sponsoring this training.

Stage a fund-raiser to sponsor a Red Cross first aid training program. Both teachers and students would benefit from this program.

Schedule a special educational week to inform students about the Kiwanis family's Worldwide Service Project to virtually eliminate iodine deficiency disorders (IDD). Make posters that explain the dangers of iodine deficiency and how the Kiwanis family is trying to eliminate the problem worldwide. Place a collection can in the school cafeteria to collect extra pennies to raise money to fight IDD.

Fund-raising Project Ideas

* Create a Calendar

Club members develop a theme or simply color pictures for a special school calendar. Approach the school faculty to assist with making a list of dates that should be noted on the calendar. Approach a printer about offering a discount for printing the calendar, and offer the printer advertising on the calendar. An adult with access to a computer may need to assist with this project. The adult will be responsible for producing the layout of the calendar and adding the notations in the correct date blocks of the calendar. After the calendars have been printed, sell the calendars to parents, local businesses, etc. The price of the calendar should cover the printing and allow for additional funds to support the charity of your choice. This project should be conducted as a joint fund-raiser benefiting both the school and the club.

* Save-a-Memory DVD Sale

Recorded special school functions, such as the school's holiday program. There are many times when parents would like to record their children, but they do not have the necessary equipment. The K-Kids club can record special school programs and offer the DVD for a fee. An order form is given to the parents as they arrive at the event, letting them know that the program is being recorded and that copies are for sale. The form should note that the proceeds are going to a designated charity. The forms and money are returned to the K-Kids club after the event. The appropriate number of duplicate DVDs are created and given to the students to deliver to their parents. The school's audiovisual department would be involved with this project, or contact the middle school or high school audiovisual department. This project should be conducted as a joint fund-raiser benefiting both the school and the club.



Macaroni Chain

Club members, with the help of the faculty advisor, arrange a fund-raising competition between classes. The club distributes string, macaroni pasta, and pledge sheets to each class. The students are asked to receive pledges of one cent for each piece of macaroni threaded on the class string. The students then have one week to collect pledges and the next week to string macaroni. Someone is responsible for keeping a count of how much macaroni has been strung, and the number is posted outside the classroom door. By the end of the week, there should be a winner. Students collect their pledges, and the money is given to the school to use for special recognition functions. The class with the most macaroni strands on the string wins and is treated to a special prize by the K-Kids club. An award presentation is conducted honoring the class. Remember to save the macaroni strings for decorating during the holidays.

Partner with Kiwanis, Key Club or Circle K club

Consider looking to a Key Club (high school) or Circle K club (college) for assistance in developing a school program or activity. Both of these organizations have adopted specific service initiatives focusing on young children and would be more than happy to work with a K-Kids on a joint endeavor.

Key Club's major emphasis program is titled *Children: Their Future, Our Focus*. Key Club has partnered with the following organizations to develop interesting and helpful programs.

UNICEF - Key Clubs raise funds for Kiwanis' Worldwide Service Project, iodine deficiency disorders.

Children's Miracle Network (CMN) - Key Clubs and Kiwanis clubs raise funds each year for local children's hospitals. In addition, Key Club members help hospital patients by providing thousands of service hours.

March of Dimes - Key Clubs raise funds and participate in local projects for March of Dimes.

For more information about Key Club's Service Initiative, log on to the Key Club Web site at www.keyclub.org.

Circle K International's Service Initiative, Focus on the Future: Children, focuses on the future of children ages six to 13. The emphasis areas of the Service Initiative are:

- After-school Programs: Turn Off TV, Turn On to Life
- Economically Disadvantaged Children: Building A Force for Change
- Educating Children; Open a Book, Show Them the World
- Life Skills Training: Supplying the Tools for Life
- Health and Safety Issues: On Call for the Future

For more information about Circle K International's Service Initiative, log on to the Circle K Web site at www.circlek.org.

Develop Partnerships with Other Organizations

Service organizations always are looking for volunteer and financial support from other groups and agencies. Conduct research on the Internet to find out more about conducting service projects to help a specific organization. Below are just a few possibilities:

Organization Names

Humane society centers
Traffic safety agencies
Habitat for Humanity
Toys for Tots
Muscular dystrophy groups
Boys ranch
Children's Miracle Network
Cystic fibrosis
Children's hospitals and pediatric trauma
Salvation Army
Red Cross
Missions
American Legion
American Cancer Society
YMCA / YWCA
AIDS Foundations
 Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
 Pediatric AIDS Foundation
UNICEF
Special Olympics
Head Start program
Children's Defense Fund
Ronald McDonald House
Local food bank
Make-a-Wish Foundation

Web site addresses

www.hsus.org
www.dot.gov/affairs/nhtsain.htm
www.habitat.org
www.toysfortots.org
www.mdausa.org
(Several Web sites are listed)
www.cmn.org
www.cff.org
(Several Web sites are listed)
www.salvationarmy.org
www.redcross.org
(Several Web sites are listed)
www.legion.org
www.cancer.org
www.ymca.net / www.ywca.org

www.texan.com/talkndog/paf.htm
www.pedaids.org
www.unicef.org
www.specialolympics.org
www.nhsa.org
www.childrensdefense.org
(Several Web sites are listed)
(Several Web sites are listed)
www.childrenswish.com