

# SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

## SOCIAL SKILLS ACTIVITY LIST

SOCIAL SKILL: VOLUNTEERING

CASEL COMPETENCY: SOCIAL AWARENESS

Grade Levels	Prep Time	Activity Time	Materials	Activity Description
K-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Paper, pencils	<p><b>What Do You Gain From Volunteering?</b>            Have students write the word volunteering at the top of their pages. Give the students 5 minutes to list things we gain from volunteering. After 5 minutes, discuss as a class (for younger students they can write/draw pictures of the emotions that come with volunteering instead).</p>
K-6	0-5 min	<30 min	M&Ms, bowls (for each student)	<p><b>Volunteerism and Kindness</b>            Follow the link below and complete the activity with the class:  <a href="http://www.candidslice.com/a-lesson-plan-for-childhood-poverty-and-chocolate/">http://www.candidslice.com/a-lesson-plan-for-childhood-poverty-and-chocolate/</a></p> <p>Couple this lesson with a volunteer project (writing letters to elderly people, making hygiene kits for homeless shelters, etc.)</p>
K-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Paper, pencils	<p><b>Volunteer Plan</b>            Discuss as a class what volunteering is. Explain that volunteering gives us chances to be leaders. Show some pictures of a world-wide volunteer activity and one that is of a smaller scale (helping pick up trash in the community or helping the teacher in class). Brainstorm different volunteering activities. Opportunities to volunteer are around us every day. Have students create their own plan of action to volunteer. Have students share some ideas with the class as a whole.</p>
3-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Paper, pencils, art supplies, large envelopes, stamps	<p><b>Letters of Joy (Veterans)</b>            Start off this lesson by talking about those who serve to protect our freedom. Talk about the sacrifices that they do in order to protect our freedom. Ask for 5 or so volunteers to write letters to people serving in the Army. Then ask for 5 volunteers for each of the different branches of the military (Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard). Have volunteers for each group sit together at a table to write letters, draw pictures, and to share ideas.</p>
K-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Whiteboard, markers	<p><b>School Project</b>            Discuss with the students that service involves changing something for the positive. Think of ways to better your school and write them on the board. Next, vote as a class on which one you will do to help the school become better (picking up trash, thank you letters to administration, etc.) Then setup a plan to do it as a class. Follow through within the next week.</p>

3-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Paper, pencils	<p><b>Responsibility and Volunteering</b></p> <p>Teach students that an important skill that is practiced through volunteering is responsibility. Talk about how they are connected and important to one another. Then tell the class that we are going to work on an assignment together, we are going to put together a canned food drive. Explain that in order for this to work we need to have volunteers for different parts of the project. Ask for several volunteers for each aspect of the canned food drive such as advertising, collecting, organizing, loading and delivering. Give students opportunities to volunteer and then have students work on it every day or so for the next two weeks until it is finished and ready for delivering. Once completed, discuss as a class what it was like to work together and put together a volunteer project as a class.</p>
3-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Paper, pencils, art supplies	<p><b>Reflecting on Volunteering</b></p> <p>Discuss as a class what volunteering is, give some examples, and then have several students share what they have done through volunteering. Now give each student a piece of paper and have them write an essay or create a storyboard about their volunteer experience and how they felt while volunteering (for students who haven't had an experience with volunteering or can't think of one have them write about a volunteer activity that they want to do and how they think they will feel while doing it. Post up the writing/pictures in the classroom for everyone to see each other's volunteering efforts.</p>