



Students “VOLUNTEER” in small ways in their community by playing a service Bingo game.



Sidewalk chalk; Washcloths; Non-toxic cleaning spray; Picture books; Stickers; Birdseed; Towels (if it is wet outside); Posterboard; Washable markers; Clean stones; Permanent markers; Colored paper; Masking or packing tape; One copy of “Small and Simple Service” Bingo board per group of 4-5 students; Pencils or pens.

Total Prep Time: 15 mins.



As this is the second Monday of the month, please consider sharing or re-sharing the Monthly Kick-Off activity, and if appropriate, video at www.everymondaymatters.org. Additionally, a three-minute recap of the previous weeks may add extra context to this week and help connect the dots around the monthly theme.

4 C's		SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING		SERVICE LEARNING	
•	Critical thinking	•	Self-awareness	•	Integrated learning
•	Communication	•	Self-management	•	High quality service
•	Collaboration	•	Social-awareness		Collaboration
•	Creativity	•	Relationship skills	•	Student voice
		•	Responsible decision-making	•	Civic responsibility
				•	Reflection
				•	Evaluation

GOALS FOR THE WEEK

- Discover personal traits and strengths that contribute to making the lives of others better
- Identify various ways to serve in local and global causes, and put these ideas into action
- Recognize how to lift others through long-term solutions based on real need
- Understand how “VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME” is an important part of this month’s theme, “MONDAY GETS ENGAGED”



STUDENT ACTIVITY: **“SMALL AND SIMPLE SERVICE”**

1) SHARE THE NAME OF THIS ACTIVITY WITH STUDENTS: “SMALL AND SIMPLE SERVICE”

2) ASK 1-3 QUESTIONS FROM THE LIST BELOW TO WARM STUDENTS UP ON THE ACTIVITY’S FOCUS:

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students’ ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **What does it mean to “SERVE” other people?**
 - Answer: To work for or be of use to other people
- **What are some ways you see people “SERVE” each other daily?**
- **How have you seen others “VOLUNTEER” their time in “SMALL AND SIMPLE” ways?**
 - What’s your favorite example of successful “VOLUNTEERING”?
- **How could you do “SMALL AND SIMPLE” acts to “VOLUNTEER” within your community?**
- **How could “SMALL” or seemingly “SIMPLE” actions lead to great change within communities, nations, and the world?**
- **As you look around your community, and based on your findings from last week (“Know the Need” week), what are some needs your community has?**
 - How will you apply those observed needs to your “VOLUNTEER” efforts?
- **Have you ever seen a “SIMPLE” thing that needed improving, and then taken the “TIME” to improve it?**
 - What was it?
 - How did your actions make a difference?
- **Why is it important to take initiative in our community rather than waiting for someone else to do it?**
- **How might someone react to seeing our “SMALL AND SIMPLE” acts of “SERVICE”?**
 - How might that action cause a chain reaction of goodness?
- **How could doing “SMALL AND SIMPLE” things to lift your community help you to “ENGAGE” with those around you?**
- **As you “ENGAGE” with others to “SERVE” them, how can you specifically let them know, YOU MATTER?**

3) SET UP THE “SMALL AND SIMPLE SERVICE” ACTIVITY:

- **Explain:**
 - As we know, it’s “VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME” week
 - And all around us are opportunities to “VOLUNTEER”
 - Sometimes it can be intimidating to think of where or how to best “VOLUNTEER” our “TIME”
 - But really, it’s all about doing what you’re already good at, in the ways you shine, and using those gifts specifically for the benefit of someone else
 - In fact, we may be “VOLUNTEERING” our “TIME” in “SMALL AND SIMPLE” ways right now and not really even realize it
 - For example, you’ve probably seen a piece of trash and picked it up to put in the garbage
 - Or you may already be aware of organizations in your area that help people
 - These “SMALL AND SIMPLE SERVICE” acts are really just miniature “VOLUNTEER” opportunities, and each one can be made into a bigger project in the future
- **Ask:**
 - What “SMALL AND SIMPLE” things do you already do to serve others?

4) START THE “SMALL AND SIMPLE SERVICE” ACTIVITY:

- **Break students into groups of 4-5, or enough groups for one leader to accompany each group**
- **Explain:**
 - Because we only have a few minutes together today to do this activity, we are going to do as many acts of “SERVICE” in our community as we can, as quickly (but effectively) as we can

- We'll do this by playing a Bingo game in small groups
- Most of what we will be doing will be out-and-about, but some require you to do a little searching
- There are no free spaces for this game though, just like there is no skimping when it comes to "SERVING" others
- If you don't get an entire row, don't worry, just try to get as many individual squares filled while still doing your very best to "ENGAGE" with others
- **Give each group a copy of the "Small and Simple Service" Bingo cards and a pencil or pen**
- **Tell the group your game boundaries (for example, on campus or a few blocks in diameter) and give them the time limit of 10-15 minutes to try to get a Bingo, or accomplish a whole row of "SMALL AND SIMPLE SERVICE" activities**
- **Set out supplies needed for some of the squares:**
 - Sidewalk chalk
 - Washcloths and non-toxic cleaning spray
 - Picture books
 - Stickers
 - Birdseed
 - Towels (if it is wet outside)
 - Posterboard, markers, and masking or packing tape
 - Clean stones and permanent markers
 - Colored paper and washable markers
- **Send out leaders and students to accomplish as many items on the Bingo board as they can in the time allotted**
 - If students are unable to finish the Bingo board in one day, spread out the activity throughout the week so students can accomplish as many "SMALL AND SIMPLE SERVICE" activities as possible
- **When groups return, see if any of them were able to get a Bingo, and discuss altogether what it was like to do "SMALL AND SIMPLE" acts of "SERVICE" today and/or throughout the week**

5) AFTER THE ACTIVITY, ASK 1-3 OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO HELP STUDENTS REFLECT ON WHAT THEY'VE ACCOMPLISHED AND HOW THEY CAN TAKE THIS FORWARD:

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students' ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **How many items from the Bingo board were you able to accomplish?**
- **Do you feel like you just went through the motions, or were you really able to "GET ENGAGED" with others through "SERVICE"?**
 - How were you proactive about that "ENGAGEMENT", or how did you ensure that you were "ENGAGED" during the activity?
- **How might you use some of the squares on this Bingo board to plan a larger, more impactful "VOLUNTEER" experience in the future?**
- **Have you seen how much "SMALL AND SIMPLE" things can make a big difference?**
 - In what ways specifically?
- **Which square from the board was your group's favorite?**
- **What are your thoughts about "SERVICE" that is "SMALL" or "SIMPLE"?**
- **If we had all the "TIME" in the world today, which square's idea would you most want to "VOLUNTEER" for?**
- **How might the amount of "TIME" you have available impact the success of your "VOLUNTEER" experience?**
- **In what other "SMALL AND SIMPLE" ways can you show others you care about them?**
- **How has today's activity helped you to show others, YOU MATTER?**

- 6) **THANK STUDENTS FOR GOING OUT INTO THEIR COMMUNITY WITH THE PURPOSE OF “SERVING”. REMIND THEM THAT NO ACT OF “SERVICE” IS TRULY “SMALL”, BECAUSE EACH ONE TAKES “TIME” AND INTENTION. REMIND THEM THAT THIS ACTIVITY WAS JUST A SAMPLING OF WHAT TYPES OF “VOLUNTEER” OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE. REMIND THEM THAT “VOLUNTEERING” DOES NOT HAVE TO BE WITH A SPECIFIC ORGANIZATION; RATHER, IT IS ANYTHING THAT BETTERS THE WORLD AROUND THEM.**
- 7) **CHALLENGE STUDENTS TO NOTICE WHEN SOMETHING “SMALL AND SIMPLE” CAN BE DONE FOR SOMEONE ELSE, AND TO LOOK FOR EVEN GREATER AND MORE MEANINGFUL WAYS TO “SERVE” AND “ENGAGE” WITH OTHERS THIS MONTH.**
- 8) **CONTINUE EXPLORING HOW TO “VOLUNTEER” THROUGH “SMALL AND SIMPLE SERVICE” BY LEADING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING EXTENSION ACTIVITIES.**



EXTENSION IDEAS:

DO ONE OR MORE OF THESE EXTENSION IDEAS TO BRING THE LESSON FROM 15 MINUTES TO 30 MINUTES OR MORE.

- 1) **Personalized Bingo:** Allow students to make their own “SMALL AND SIMPLE SERVICE” Bingo boards, then have them swap with another group. Then, have them do as many “SERVICE” activities as they can and try to get a Bingo.
- 2) **Blackout Bingo:** Instead of playing just to get a Bingo, give students time throughout the week or even month to do a blackout of their board (i.e. everything that’s on the board).
- 3) **Service from Small to Large:** Let students choose one square from their board and create a larger-scale “VOLUNTEER” project based off of it to do together as a class.
- 4) **Smaller and Larger Volunteering:** Have students make a Bingo board for something even “SMALLER”, like things they can do to “VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME” for a family member, or something larger, like things they can do to make a global impact. Let them know that it’s okay if it takes them a while to achieve those larger “VOLUNTEER” goals.
- 5) **Volunteer with Younger Students:** If there is a location in your area that cares for younger children, see if your class or site can “VOLUNTEER” there for an afternoon by reading books, drawing pictures, or other age-appropriate activities.

**“ NO AMOUNT OF KINDNESS,
HOWEVER SMALL,
IS EVER WASTED. ”**

- AESOP



SMALL AND SIMPLE SERVICE BINGO

Pick up 10 pieces of trash	Hold open a door for someone who needs it	Find someone who's carrying something and offer to help	Locate a local organization that helps your community and tell them thank you	Make a list of 5 ways you can make your community or school more eco-friendly
Write chalk messages on the sidewalk for a specific positive cause or message	Clean an area that needs it, like a wall or desk	Read a book to someone	Write a note to put in someone's lunch or snack	Return a grocery cart to where it belongs
Find the name and address of an organization that serves children in your area	Pass out stickers to kids waiting in line	Feed some birds	Put away 4 items that are out of place	Record a video message of encouragement for friends who aren't with you right now
Dry the slides at the park with towels if it has rained	Put recyclables in their correct bin	Make a thank-you sign for sanitation workers and place them near garbage cans	Create (with markers) and leave stones with kind messages at a park or the playground	Say thanks to someone serving in the military
Teach someone in your group something new	Find the name and address of an animal shelter in your area	Make a list of 5 more things you can do for service that are not already on this board	Find the name and address of an organization that serves people who are homeless	Make a thank you card for your school's receptionist