VOLUNTEER AND PAID OPPORTUNITIES FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

# Suggested Paid Work Opportunities for Middle School Students

* Babysit at home and for neighbors.
* Do yard work (such as edging; pulling weeds; planting seeds, bulbs, or plants; mowing; raking; bagging leaves; and shoveling snow) for relatives and neighbors.
* Wash, vacuum, and wax vehicles.
* Provide pet-sitting or pet-exercising services.
* Do household chores, such as washing and drying dishes; washing, drying, and folding clothes; ironing; sweeping; vacuuming; mopping; and cleaning out cupboards or garages.
* Provide companionship to an elderly or sick neighbor or relative.
* Take care of a pool (for example, by sweeping, bagging leaves, checking skimmer baskets, and adding chemicals as needed).
* Help prepare meals or shop for an ill or infirm person who is unable to leave his or her house.

# Volunteer Possibilities for Students with Visual Impairments

* Food banks often need assistance with receipt of goods, inventory work, distribution of packages, and such.
* Neighborhood recreation centers recruit volunteers to help schedule courts and other athletic venues, check equipment and sporting goods in and out, distribute information about upcoming events, and answer the telephone.
* Nursing homes and assisted living facilities welcome young people to read, sing, or entertain residents with music; play games such as dominoes or cards; help residents with their computer skills or arts and craft activities; or simply converse with residents.
* Animal shelters and veterinary clinics will often allow youngsters to volunteer as pet walkers or groomers, or to help clean out cages.
* Hospitals and rehabilitation facilities welcome youngsters who can deliver reading materials, meals, or flowers to patients or who can help with clerical and social service tasks such as calling to follow up on recently released patients to be sure they are doing okay, sitting with chronically or terminally ill patients, and reading or singing for patients.
* Churches and synagogues encourage volunteers to help entertain young children during services, hand out prayer books or programs, wipe pews, and remove and replace old flower arrangements.
* Parochial and secular nurseries and day care facilities will often allow middle and high school students to work alongside an adult and help on the playground or during noninstructional times with entertaining the children by reading to them, playing games, or rocking babies. Volunteers are also welcome to help tidy the classrooms and play areas.
* Schools encourage middle and high school students to tutor younger students with and without disabilities, help care for school or classroom pets, maintain school gardens, tidy up classrooms or athletic areas, remove dated materials from bulletin boards, and help at school-sponsored athletic events or plays as a ticket taker or usher.
* Libraries often use volunteers to read to children, help with computer or technology classes, and help sort books and other materials.
* Special interest groups (political organizations; community-, province-, or state-focused groups; historical societies; groups concerned with unusual animals, insects, and flowers; and the like) often need volunteers to help with promoting their cause, sharing information with others, assisting in their offices, or performing other administrative or practical tasks.
* Communities will often run notices of special volunteer events such as trash pickup, tree planting, or similar activities and many have online postings for specifically needed help (with age limits, when appropriate). Charities always need volunteers to help in their offices and with their programs. Students can find a cause avail that interests them and volunteer for their selected charity.