

## The Chain Effect

Grades 2–3

Books open doors to a multitude of volunteering possibilities by showing kids that there are volunteer opportunities for every interest, talent, and passion. The I Can Make a Difference series from Heinemann includes volunteering to help animals, family and friends, the community, and the environment. Each book discusses the purpose of volunteering and describes simple tasks children can do. Use all four books in the series or find similar books from your collection that will assist students in developing ideas for volunteering. (Remind students about using nonfiction text features to find information.)

Split students into four groups. Give books on one topic to each group of students and distribute a paper doll cutout to each student. The students should write one volunteering idea on each paper doll. Tape the paper dolls together after students read the tasks to the class. Create chains for each of the topics and post where other classes can read the ideas. Spend time as a whole class sharing ideas about why it is good to volunteer.

## Volunteer Stars

Grade 4–5

Have students interview local volunteers. View the short YouTube video interview of a football team that executed a very special play that enabled a child with a disability to score a touchdown (<http://tinyurl.com/l6vwssz>). Discuss what the team did, why they did it, and the results. Watch it a second time to focus on the questions asked by the interviewer. Compile a list of questions that students can use when interviewing a volunteer.

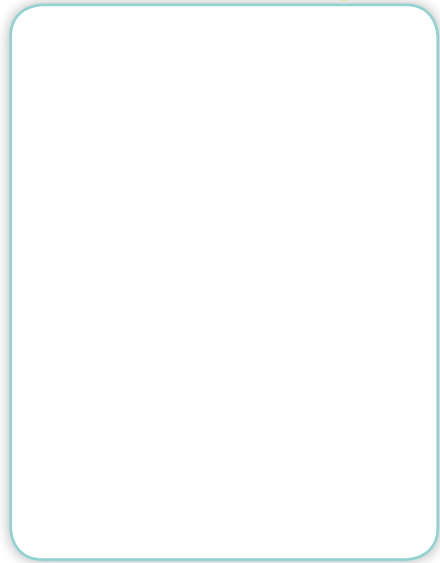
Invite parent volunteers from the school or reach out to community organizations. Have students work in pairs to interview a volunteer, write up a summary, and present their findings to the class. Spotlight these wonderful volunteers by posting the summaries and a picture of the volunteer on a Volunteer Star Wall.

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Grades 2-3



Volunteer Stars



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# Suggested Books

## Picture Books

- Because Brian Hugged His Mother* by David Rice. Dawn Publishing, 1999.
- Clara and Davie* by Patricia Polacco. Scholastic, 2014.
- Heartprints* by P.K. Hallinan. Ideals Children's Books, 2002.
- Just Critters Who Care* by Mercer Mayer. Harper, 2010.
- Kindness Is Cooler, Mrs. Ruler* by Margery Cuyler. Simon & Schuster Books, 2007.
- The Kindness Quilt* by Nancy Wallace. Two Lions, 2006.
- Mama Miti: Wangari Maathai and the Trees of Kenya* by Donna Napolitano. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2010.
- Mother Teresa* by Demi. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2005.
- One Smile* by Cindy McKinley. Illumination Arts Publishing, 2002.
- Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed* by Emily Pearson. Gibbs Smith, 2002.

## Novels

- Caitlin's Lucky Charm* by Lisa Schroeder. Scholastic, 2014.
- Fight for Life* by Laurie Anderson. American Girl, 2000.
- Katie Saves the Earth* by Fran Manushkin. Picture Window Books, 2013.
- Martin Bridge in High Gear!* by Jessica Kerrin. Kids Can Press, 2008.
- Otis* by Ellen Miles. Scholastic Inc, 2011.
- The Puppy Place: Lucky* by Ellen Miles. Scholastic, 2007.
- The Puppy Place: Shadow* by Ellen Miles. Scholastic, 2006.

## Nonfiction

- Building a Green Community* by Ellen Rodger. Crabtree, 2008.
- Careers in Community Service* by John Bankston. Bear, 2002.
- Community Service: Lending a Hand* by Terry Callahan. Mason Crest Publishers, 2005.
- Community Soup* by Alma Fullerton. Pajama Press, 2013.
- Cool School Volunteering* by Karen L. Kenney. Checkerboard Books, 2011.
- Crinkleroot's Guide to Giving Back to Nature* by Jim Arnosky. Putnam's Sons, 2012.
- Earth Matters* by Yvonne Morrison. Children's Press, 2008.
- Earth Smart: How to Take Care of the Environment* by Leslie Garrett. DK Pub, 2006.

## Nonfiction

- Endangered Planet* by David Burnie. Kingfisher, 2004.
- Fighting Poverty* by Nicola Barber. Heinemann Library, 2012.
- Forests Under Threat* by Paul Mason. Heinemann Library, 2009.
- The Global Economy: America and the World* by Hugh Roome and Anne R. Roome. Scholastic, 2014.
- Grasslands Under Threat* by Paul Mason. Heinemann Library, 2009.
- Helping Animals* by Victoria Parker, Daniel Nunn, Rebecca Rissman, and Sian Smith. Heinemann Library, 2012.
- Helping Family and Friends* by Victoria Parker. Heinemann Library, 2012.
- Helping in the Community* by Victoria Parker. Heinemann Library, 2012.
- Helping the Environment* by Victoria Parker. Heinemann Library, 2012.
- How to Help the Earth* by Tish Rabe, Christopher Moroney, and Jan Gerardi. Random House, 2012.
- Lend a Hand: Girl-sized Ways of Helping Others* by Apryl Lundsten and Josée Masse. American Girl, 2011.
- Let's Recycle!* by Anne Mackenzie. Capstone Press, 2007.
- Love Your World: How to Take Care of the Plants, the Animals, and the Planet* by Dawn Sirett, Rachael Parfitt, Howard Shooter, and Dave King. DK Pub, 2009.
- Mountains Under Threat* by Paul Mason. Heinemann Library, 2009.
- Oceans Under Threat* by Paul Mason. Heinemann Library, 2009.
- Projects for a Healthy Planet: Simple Environmental Experiments for Kids* by Shar Levine, Allison Grafton, and Terry Chui. Wiley, 1992.
- Reptile Rescue* by Peggy Thomas. 21st Century, 2000.
- Rivers Under Threat* by Paul Mason. Heinemann Library, 2009.
- Saving Lives & Changing Hearts: Animal Sanctuaries and Rescue Centre* by Rob Laidlaw. Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2012.
- Volunteering* by Amanda Rondeau. ABDO, 2002.
- Volunteering: A How-to Guide* by Audrey Borus. Enslow Publishers, Inc, 2012.
- Volunteering Around the World* by Helen Chapma. Macmillan Education Australia, 2010.
- Volunteering for a Political Campaign* by Sheila Klee. Children's Press, 2000.
- Volunteering in Your School* by Claire O'Neal. Mitchell Lane Pub, 2011.
- Volunteering to Help Animals* by Claudia Isler. Children's Press, 2000.
- Volunteering to Help in Your Neighborhood* by Claudia Isler. Children's Press, 2000.
- Volunteering to Help Kids* by Michael Black. Children's Press, 2000.
- Volunteering to Help Seniors* by Patrick Newell. Children's Press, 2000.
- Volunteering to Help the Environment* by Suzanne Murdico. Children's Press, 2000.
- Volunteers and Volunteering* by Heather Hammonds. Macmillan Education Australia, 2010.
- Who Will Save My Planet?* by Ma Urrutia. Tundra Books, 2012.