

Organize a volunteer activity with your friends.

WE volunteer now

AN INITIATIVE OF



LEADERSHIP SKILLS



CRITICAL THINKING



REFLECTION



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES

VOLUNTEERING + YOUTH EMPOWERMENT = CHANGE

Volunteering is not only a great way to help make the world a better place for everyone to live in, it feels good too! Encourage everyone around you to volunteer their time or skills for an important cause. It only takes one person to start doing good to inspire everyone to do the same.

With WE Volunteer Now, motivate the people around you to do good, take action and make a difference in your community! It takes just one person to make a change.



FACT: Volunteering improves health by strengthening the body, lifting mood and reducing stress.

Ways to Take Action

Rally your group to volunteer at a homeless shelter to serve meals to your community.



At School

- Organize a toy or book drive for those in need. Expand your drive to include other needed items such as baby items or personal hygiene items.
- Organize a march with your classmates to raise awareness about your issue. Hand out flyers and cards to educate others about your cause.



At Home

- Organize a weekend to volunteer as a family, whether at a local food bank or community centre.
- As a family, learn about important issues that are affecting your community by visiting a local animal shelter, food bank or community centre. Research more at home and discuss as a family what you can do to help.



As a Community

- Visit a senior home to learn from and engage with the people in your community.
- Organize a neighbourhood clothing drive for a homeless shelter.



Tech for Good Badge

Create an online bulletin board and sign-up list of volunteer opportunities in your community. Add to your list as you go! Be sure to share your experience using [#WEvolunteerNow](#).

Go further: Send a weekly or monthly e-newsletter to share the good that's being done in your community and volunteer opportunities!

In the Classroom

With our Classroom Resources, educators can integrate service-based learning into their curriculum to broaden students' understanding of issues they are passionate about. Download *Volunteerism: A Growing Movement* at [WE.org/wevolunteernow](https://we.org/wevolunteernow) for lesson plans and ideas to learn more about the power of volunteerism.

Volunteerism: A Growing Movement

Grade	Subject Connection	Learning Goals	Skills Developed
1 to 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language • Social Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about the history and importance of volunteerism in Canada. • Research and discover an organization to volunteer with, or plan your own volunteer experience. • Understand and demonstrate ways to spread awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action planning • Research and writing • Argument formation • Organization • Reflection
9 to 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Social Sciences and the Humanities • Canadian and World Studies 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information literacy • Critical thinking • Leadership skills



Campaign in Action

Every month, students at Killarney School participate in WE Volunteer Now to help make a difference. For half a day, students in Grades 4 to 6 go out into the community for their Community Service Day to either visit a local seniors' home, volunteer at a pet training facility, support a local preschool or participate in a healthy lunches program for kids who don't have access to them. At the seniors' home, students partner with residents to play games, read and socialize and at the pet training facility, Dogma, students help puppies socialize for their Kinderpups program. At the local preschool, students assist with cleaning and activities, preparing snacks and more, while students at the healthy lunches program, Brown Bagging for Calgary Lunches, run errands and build on practical life skills like shopping for healthy snacks. They also include Lunches Love Cards in the lunches, homemade cards with messages of kindness.

Get Doing

STEP 1

Investigate and Learn

What local issues are you and your group passionate about? Before taking action, learn more about the issues you care about and research which organizations you would like to volunteer for. Feel free to start with the Exploring Issues activity to see what issues are affecting communities across the country and spark your do-good action.



CHECKLIST

- Check out the Issue Cards
- Create an Action Plan
- Visit [WE.org/wevolunteernow](https://we.org/wevolunteernow) for resources
- Put up campaign posters
- Watch and share the campaign video
- Print out and distribute the resources
- Share on social media with [#WEvolunteerNow](https://twitter.com/WEvolunteerNow)
- Plan your WE DayX
- Complete your Campaign Impact Survey
- Complete your Tech for Good badge survey

What did you learn?

What local issues are you passionate about? _____

What local organizations would you like to volunteer for? _____

Now zone in on your own community!

Learn about the issues in your own backyard by taking a walk around your neighbourhood and mapping out the issues. Download the Community Mapping activity at [WE.org/weschoolskit](https://we.org/weschoolskit).

What social issues are apparent in your local community? What issues were you most surprised by? _____

How can you help address these issues? _____

STEP 2

Action Plan

You can plan multiple small volunteer actions throughout your school and community or put all your effort into planning one big event! You decide your goal.

Set Your Goal

What will your volunteer action be? _____

When will you hold your volunteer week or event? _____

How will you be measuring how much you volunteer? (E.g., hours, actions, events) _____

More people means more impact! How will you rally together and increase participation in your campaign?

Create a Timeline

Create a timeline to help plan your actions! Plot the steps your group will take to gear up for your volunteer actions around the school or community, including how you will rally people together to participate.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

What supplies will you need?



STEP 3

Take Action

It's time to take action! Rally your friends and community members together to do good. By volunteering, you will be making a positive difference not just in your community but also in your own life!

Tip: Get creative and find a fun way to rally people together such as making a catchy name to raise awareness or hosting an event!



Share your pictures, progress and volunteer actions on social media with **#WEvolunteerNow.**

Reflect

How did it feel to help others? Do you feel like you had an impact? _____

Why is it important to ask others to join you? _____

How will you take your volunteer actions further or continue your actions? _____

STEP 4

Report and Celebrate

Report

How many different activities did you plan? _____

How many people did you get involved in volunteer actions? _____

How many hours, on average, did each person volunteer? _____

How have your thoughts on volunteering changed? _____

Has your educator contacted your WE Schools Program Manager about filling out an Impact Survey? _____

Celebrate

Make sure you celebrate and share the success of your campaign, and reward yourselves for all your hard work.

- Share photos of your actions with your school, community and WE Schools Program Manager.
- Record the highlights of your event day and create a video.
- Celebrate impacts through a class party, assembly or WE DayX.

Thank everyone who supported your campaign!

Use this space to brainstorm fun ideas to celebrate your impacts. (E.g., host a school assembly or party.)

